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MEMORIAL

OF

JOHN, HENRY, AND RICHARD

TOWNSEND,

AND THEIR DESCENDANTS.

NEW YORK:
W. A. TOWNSEND, PUBLISHER.
1865.

THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY

TO

PHEBE RUSHMORE,

GREAT-GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER OF RICHARD TOWNSEND;

MARY HEWLETT,

GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER OF JOHN TOWNSEND;

AND

PHEBE WRIGHT,

GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER OF HENRY TOWNSEND;

THE OLDEST LIVING DESCENDANTS OF

THE TOWNSEND BROTHERS:

This Memorial

IS MOST AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.

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PREFACE.

In the winter of 1863 & 4, our attention was called to some old deeds and papers in our possession, by a question, casually started, about some long dead and gone Townsend. The items of family history which we gathered from them excited our interest and curiosity, and we went to the Town Records, to follow up the clue thus obtained. At first, the old-fashioned writing (very handsome, however, of its kind) was a trial to eyes and patience, but a little practice enabled us to decipher it very readily. And we found it interesting and exciting work to follow up the different branches of the family, frequently coming, most unexpectedly, upon some hitherto unknown member, and again, after long search, finding the proper niche for one who had seemed entirely unconnected with the rest. We think there are not more than two, mentioned in the Town Records, whom we have not been able to place, and they do not appear until the middle of the last century. Apart from the pleasure arising from the solution of difficulties in the family history, we found the search among the Records, to our surprise, most entertaining, from the glimpses which the old deeds, wills, and minutes of Town Meetings give of

the habits and characters of the people. The names soon ceased to be mere names to us, and became the representatives of men as diversified in their characters, and as distinct to our apprehension, as our contemporaries, and far more interesting. It was possible, too, having once obtained a starting-point, to ascertain with certainty the homes of nearly all the early settlers in the village. We thought that a few facts relating to their customs, polity, and residences, might not be uninteresting; so that, as an introduction to the Memorial, we have noted down a few of the most salient points of the Records.

We are much indebted to John Remsen, Town-Clerk, for the facilities he has afforded us in searching the Records, and to Edward Willets, by whose kindness we were allowed to examine the Records of the Westbury Monthly Meeting, of which he is the Secretary. Beside these, and the papers belonging to our branch of the family, we have, by the courtesy of our connections, had access to many interesting documents. We have extracted freely from all these sources, as being more interesting than any paraphrase that we could give, modernizing the spelling for the convenience of our readers, as well as our own, but in other respects adhering strictly to the originals. The wills are particularly characteristic and amusing. There are none on the Records later than 1700.

It will be observed, that we have not brought the genealogy down to the same generation in all the branches. We had not the necessary information, and

could only obtain it by a tedious inquiry and correspondence, without a compensating advantage; as our object is not to make a catalogue of the living, but to preserve and perpetuate the memory of the dead. Where any of the branches are imperfect, as far as traced, it is because we either knew not from whence to supply the omissions, or received no answer to our applications. Perhaps if we had been able to search the County Records as thoroughly as we have those of the Town, we might have filled up some of the blanks. We do not hope that our sketch will have any interest except for those who love old things simply for their antiquity, without regard to their intrinsic value; and, even to them, it cannot be so interesting as to us, who have become gradually and thoroughly acquainted with the subject; and probably we shall often fail to make the connecting thread (so plain to us) apparent to our readers. Still, we hope the result will not be entirely without interest to the members of the family, and the inhabitants of the village.

Oyster Bay, *March* 8, 1864.

A MEMORIAL.

"Anno Domini sixteen hundred and fifty-three. This writing witnesseth, that Assiapum, *alias* Mohanes, have sold unto Peter Wright, Samuel Mayo, and William Leverich, their heirs, administrators, and assigns, all his land lying and situate upon Oyster Bay, and bounded by Oyster River to the east side, Papaquatunk River on the west side, with all woods, rivers, meadows, uplands, ponds, and all other appurtenances lying between the bounds aforesaid, with all the Islands lying to the seaward, excepting one Island, commonly called Hog Island, and bounded near the southward by a point of trees, called Cantiague. In consideration of which bargain sold, he is to receive, as full satisfaction, six Indian coats, six kettles, six fathom of wampum, six hoes, five hatchets, three pair stockings, thirty awl-blades, or muxes, twenty knives, three shirts, and as much Peague as will amount to four pounds sterling. In witness thereof he set his mark in presence of us,

"William Washbourne,
"Anthony Wright,
"Robert Williams.

Assiapum, or
Mohanes + mark.

"The within-named Samuel Mayo, Peter Wright, and William Leverich, do accept as joint partners with our-

selves, in the lands purchased of Assiapum, and
ticularly mentioned in the writing made, and subsc
by himself and other Indians, respectively intereste
names of such Indians absent, acted by himself,
them all. Witness our hands,

"William Leveri
"Samuel Mayo.

"Joint purchasers with us,—

"William Washbourne, Thos. Armitage,
"Daniel Whitehead, Anthony Wrigh
"Robert Williams, John Washbour

With this deed begins the history of Oyster
The following curious accounts of the first settl
—found, the first, among the papers of William M.
lett, an autograph, the last in the Town Record—
how the payment to the Indians was made :

"Oyster Bay, 20th of December, 1683. I, Ni
Simkins, now an inhabitant of Musketocove, age
six, or thereabouts, do declare that I, being at th
settlement of Oyster Bay, which was in the year
Peter Wright, William Leverich, and Samuel
they being the three first purchasers, as by the
deed from the Indian Sachem, and they being
tioned in the deed as purchasers, condescended
others, to make a settlement of the said purcha
for did accept of William Washbour
his son John Washbourne, Thomas Armitage,
Whitehead, Robert Williams, and Richard Holbr

equal purchasers with them, and forthwith indorsed the same upon the back side of the bill of sale; that being done and agreed upon, they immediately proceeded to the laying out allotments; but first they laid out all the highways in the Town, by joint consent. Secondly, beginning at the Mill River, from, and so eastward to the harbor side, they laid out upward of twenty lots, granting equal privileges to every lot; and next year, Will Smith and old John Titus, with several others, were accepted of as inhabitants, and had their allotments laid out to them, by Peter Wright, by the consent of the purchasers. But so it happened, that the purchase-money being not paid, the Indians began to be very unruly and dissatisfied; whereupon the purchasers with the rest of the inhabitants then settled, desired William Smith and John Titus to prepay for the goods, to pay the Indians, which they did, to Mr. Briant, of Milford, and paid it in beef, and I killed the cattle and paid the debt; and when we came to levy the rate for the purchase, it came to eighteen shillings and ten pence. And, to my knowledge, Samuel Mayo was at two Town Meetings, at the first settlement of the place, and was always forward in joining and granting of allotments to each one that was free to settle amongst them, as far forth as any of the rest of the purchasers, or people settled; and this I can give upon oath, and much more, if thereunto called or required, as witness my hand. Richard Holbrook was the first man, as a purchaser, that got up his house, in Oyster Bay. To which I subscribe my hand.

"Nicholas Simkins."

"I, Samuel Titus, of Huntington, aged forty-nine, or thereabouts, doth witness and declare, that about thirty years since, at the first settlement of Oyster Bay, being then with my father, under his command, Mr. Leverich, and the rest of the first purchasers, living in said Town, who admitted freely of my father and two of my brothers as inhabitants and townsmen amongst them, who paid before his death his purchase-money, with the rest of the purchasers; and I well remember, my father had an ox, and one cow, which was killed and sent over to Milford, to Mr. Briant, excepting one quarter, to procure the goods to pay the Indians for the Town purchase, which, I suppose, should have been paid before, but was not, whereupon the Indians began to be very surly, until they had their pay paid them, as aforesaid. And further, I well remember, that Mr. Samuel Mayo was here at Oyster Bay, several times after this payment and settlement of the Town, and never made any objection against any of their proceedings, in the settlement thereof; and further, I remember, that the said purchasers of the Town did condescend to each other, to have no more in the propriety thereof, but to be equal alike, which was, every purchaser a home lot containing six acres, and others, that were to be taken in as townsmen, to have but five-acre lots; and that I never, all the time we lived in the town, did hear or understand, that said Mayo desired any more for his part among the rest of the Town, at the time, than the lot which was laid out unto him, lying on the north side of Anthony Wright's home lot, which I was informed by several of the Town

at the time, he did intend to come speedily, and settle upon it; and further, I well remember, that after the Indians had their pay, now quiet and well contented, and then the inhabitants, with the purchasers, now agreed, and was to give Mr. Leverich fifteen pounds per year, as minister among them. This above written is the truth; and would have been present before the arbitrators at Oyster Bay, to have declared the same, but was prevented by reason of my hay, at the south, lieth upon as witness my hand, in Oyster Bay, 24th day of October, 1684.

"SAMUEL TITUS."

"This sworn before me, this 24th day of October, 1684.

"THOMAS TOWNSEND."

The boundaries of the Indian deed are indefinite, and controversies very soon arose about the western line,—the Indians claiming the right to the lands on Matinecock, and at Susco's wigwam (so called from Susconamon, by whom the greater part of the subsequent Indian deeds are given), now Wolver Hollow and Cedar Swamp, the whites maintaining Hempstead Harbor to be the western boundary. Papaquatunk River is never mentioned except in this deed, and the terms of the grant make it evident that the Indians were right in claiming Beaver Swamp and Shoo Brook as the western line. For once, they maintained their rights, and sold land at all these places. Matinecock included Buckram, which was not so called on the Records, until after 1730.

Buckram lot had been mentioned before, but that was a small parcel of land, not a district. In 1785, the Indian title was extinguished by the New Purchase, extending to what is now the western boundary of the Town. There was also some difference of opinion as to the intentions of the Indians in selling, and the Rev. Mr. Leverich, who had then left here, gives his understanding of the matter, as follows. The views of the Indians on the subject are not recorded.

"Protest of Wm. Leverich, Old Purchase, March 22d, 1663. Whereas, I understand that there is some controversy about a sale of lands, made by Assiapum, or Mohanes, made to Samuel Mayo, Peter Wright, and William Leverich, for want of sound formalities usual in English deeds; and being desired what I understood about the points, I do therefore testify, that the intention of the said Assiapum was to convey, not only his right, but the right of his heirs and Ex^trs., which, though not expressed, is easily understood. 1st, For the Indians, so far as I can understand, have never made any sales for lives, but of custom—which is their law—passed the right of their heirs present, with their own, unless they made any express exceptions; 2d, and there is enough in the writing to prove this to have been his intention, in the words, interlined, Heirs and Executors, and which, if it may help such are on difference to a better intelligence, I shall be glad. If otherwise, I shall be sorry that such as profess themselves Christians, shall

teach heathens less honesty, under pretence of teaching them more law. WILLIAM LEVERICH."

These misunderstandings seem to have occasioned no hostile feelings between the whites and the Indians. Except on the sale of lands, the latter are only alluded to on the Records in the following entry:

"Dec. 13th, 1660. It is ordered, that no person or persons whatsoever shall, doubly or individually, sell wine or strong liquor to the Indians, upon the forfeiture of five shillings for the first default, and ten shillings for the second, and the third time, to forfeit his right of meadow to the Town."

Beside the difficulties with the Indians about the western boundary, there were controversies with the Town of Huntington on the east, and Robert Williams on the south. We copy the following remonstrance to the people of Huntington, from the Record:

"Oyster Bay, this 3d day of the 7th month, 1663. Neighbors: we are informed, by one of your townsmen, that some of your townsmen have mowed some of our meadows at the south. If it be a mistake, we shall not regard it; but if appointed by you, we desire to know your grounds, for we desire to be at peace with you, and to have our rights also, which we judge is your right desire also; and therefore, if you see cause to appoint a man, or more, and let him, or them, have your deeds, that fully show your title to the said land, then shall we do the like; but we request you, to send us a

line or two, that we may know your minds, and appoint the time and place, and we will meet you, and end the difference if we can: but if you refuse our proposition herein to you, then we do by this, request you, to forbear mowing our meadow, which begins at the River Passasqueung, our east bounds. For peace and quietness, we have done this, knowing that the best title must carry it, and that cannot be known, but they must be compared, and we hope that is the readiest way, for any that desire peace.

"In behalf of the Town, a true copy of what was sent by me.

"HENRY TOWNSEND."

To settle this line, Thomas Townsend, Nathaniel Coles, and John Weeks were appointed by Oyster Bay, and Thomas Powell and Abiel Titus, by Huntington; and on the 7th of August, 1684, they run the line of division. Several attempts were made to settle the difficulty with Williams, and, as appears from the following order, there was a settlement made; but long afterwards, the affair seems to have given a great deal of trouble, and there are allusions to a suit between the Town and Williams's widow and heirs. This order is interesting, as it gives evidence of the industrious habits of the people.

"Oyster Bay, June 13th, 1684. At a Town Meeting then ordered, that every freeholder of this Town, or that possesses any lands within this Town purchase, are to attend at the Town House, on Monday next, being the 5th day of July ensuing, at sunrise, at furthest, in the

morning, in order to run the line or bound between this Town's lands, and Robert Williams's lands; and that person interested in the Town, that shall prove defective herein, shall forfeit five shillings, to them that run the same, according to this order, and to be taken forthwith, by distress, by the Constable. Provided that those that cannot go, do cut brush in the town, where they shall be appointed, by those persons appointed for that purpose, this year."

The line between Oyster Bay and Hempstead was also the subject of negotiation, and was finally adjusted by Henry and Thomas Townsend, on the part of Oyster Bay; although late in the ensuing century there was still some disagreement between the towns, respecting their boundaries.

It is not possible to discover from the Records, with any precision, the regulations which governed the management and distribution of the common property. There are abundant evidences, not only that their practice varied, but that their theory was very vague and ill-defined, and variously understood and construed. From the deposition of Samuel Titus, already cited, and many other indications, we believe that the first intention (departed from especially in relation to the meadows, very soon) was, that there should be no private property but the home lots, the first of which were, as he says, six acres, but were not, as he says, five acres to all subsequent purchasers, few, after the first allotments, being so large, and several, we know, were only half an acre. This indefiniteness in their scheme of

division led to many difficulties. The heirs of Peter Wright, Mayo, and Leverich, claimed rights which the Town disputed, and it was in an arbitration between the Town and Mayo's representatives, that these depositions were taken, to prove that Mayo had never claimed more than a townsman's right. Finally, the Town settled with the heirs of Peter Wright and Mayo, by giving them a large tract of land on the south side of the Town. Many years afterwards, in 1720, Nicholas Lang and others brought suit against the Town, for rights in the Old Purchase, under the titles of William Leverich and Robert Williams, but this time it was decided in favor of the Town.

But though their theory was vague, and their practice variable, there are some matters of fact, which we have gleaned, that may be interesting. Every home lot was entitled to certain privileges, such as shares in the *common meadows*, pastures, and woodlands. These privileges were not inseparable from the lot, as, at a sale, they were sometimes reserved by the seller, and sometimes divided into half-rights. Being a land-owner did not necessarily constitute a freeholder. The Town frequently, for particular reasons, gave home lots to persons having no rights, upon condition of building, within a year and a day (several such gifts were forfeited). These lots, varying in size, carried with them privileges, more or less extensive, at the option of the donors, and many who obtained lots in this way, or by purchase, were accepted, at different times, as "equal townsmen," whether by purchase or favor does not appear. The

freeholders claimed the right to prevent the transfer of property to strangers, without their consent.

"Dec. 13th, 1660. It is this day ordered and agreed, by the inhabitants of the Town, that no person whatsoever shall sell any land, lying or being within the bound of Oyster Bay, unto any, until the Town, or a major part of the Town, do admit first, of the said purchaser, for an inhabitant."

They asserted this right, on several occasions, but never, that we can discover, successfully. John Richbill, the only large landholder in the early days of the settlement, though it does not appear how he became so, sold his interest, to Latamore Sampson; the Town entered a protest upon record, but, notwithstanding, Sampson retained the property, and transmitted it to others.

Hog Island was, in the original deed, reserved by the Indians, but very soon passed into the possession of the settlers (when or how, we have not found recorded),* and was, with Pine Island, among their most valuable property. They planted a part of it, occasionally, so much as to prevent the use of it as a common pasture, and there are several engagements, with different persons, to live there, and take care of the crops. But its principal value consisted in its grazing lands and meadows. Indeed, for a great many years, the natural

* Since writing this, we have found a deed, from which it appears that the Indians sold the Island to Cornelius Van Raynen, Govert Lokermans, and Jacobus Bucker, who transferred it to the Town of Oyster Bay in 1665. The consideration is not stated.

produce of the meadows, fresh and salt, seems to have been their principal resource.

It does not appear exactly what was meant by "common rights." Pasture for a certain number of cattle, and the use of wood, were some of them. The number of animals which one person was allowed to graze is not mentioned, except in the case of Hog Island; at a meeting of the owners of that, the following resolution was passed, though afterwards they concluded to graze none that year, but plant.

"April 30th, 1686. At a meeting at the house of Henry Townsend, it was ordered and agreed upon unanimously, by the major part of the owners and proprietors of the said Island, that there shall be no more than six cows kept on the said Island to one share, which share is twenty-second part of said Island, and that shall be the whole stint and number of creatures that shall be kept there, with liberty, as hereafter expressed, that for every cow, that shall be diminished or abated of the aforesaid number, there may be put in the room thereof, either two swine, four sheep, or two yearlings of cow kind; and one horse, in the room of two cows; but goats are to be free for every owner, to keep what he pleases."

"In 1685, it is ordered, that after the 25th of the next December, no swine are to run on the common without a swine-herd, and no one was to be required to fence against them, and they were not to run in the streets, with or without a herd, and any one was (in case they do so) at liberty to kill them, or take what

course he pleased, provided, the owners were first warned. In 1689, they were entirely prohibited on the common."

The salt hay had a value, beside its nutritious qualities. In the "Documentary History of New York," it is stated, that the natural pasture in Oyster Bay was thought to be injurious, indeed fatal to cattle, but that the deleterious effects were prevented by the use of salt hay. It is most probable that the disease was attributable to some other cause than the natural grass.

If, as we have supposed, it was the first intention to hold all but the home lots as common property, it was not very long acted upon. At first, shares of meadow were laid out to each. Then, from time to time, divisions of the other common lands were made; sometimes only to the freeholders, of whom we give below a list in 1677. Sometimes, land-owners, not freeholders, shared in the distribution. Sometimes, the land to be divided was designated and distributed by lot; but frequently, if not generally, when the shares are sold, the purchaser is authorized to take them, "where he shall see cause."

"A Town Meeting, held the 1st of May, 1677, there confirmed by name, every freeholder, which hath a free vote, for giving and granting of common rights, and not otherwise; and that, from henceforward, no grant of township, or common rights, shall be confirmed, or held legal grants, without every freeholder hath legal warning, that such a meeting is to be appointed, or that there are lands to be given out; and after legal warning given

them, by the officer appointed, it shall be held legal, to all intents and purposes, all gifts or grants of common rights, to either man or men, given by the majority of freeholders, that doth appear at the time and place appointed; and it is further agreed that, for every town right that any freeholder doth possess, he shall have so many votes, in the giving and granting land and common rights, and not otherwise to be understood, but to grant and divide, as they shall see cause.

"Henry Townsend, 1.
Joseph Dickinson, 1.
Edmund Wright, 1.
Anthony Wright, 1.
Joseph Ludlum, 2.
Samuel Weeks, 1.
Nicholas Simkins, 1.
John Jones, 1.
Francis Weeks, 1½.
William Frost, 1.
John Rogers, 1.
John Dickinson, 1.
Wm. Buckler, 1.
Nicholas Wright, 1.
Job Wright, 1.
Elizabeth Townsend, 2.
John Townsend, 1.
Josias Latting, 2.
Nathaniel Coles, 1½.
Richard Harcott, 1.
Adam Wright, 1
Daniel Coles, 1.
John Wright, 1.
John Townsend, 1.
Caleb Wright, 1.
Isaac Doutty, 1.
James Townsend, 1.
John Weeks, 1.
Samuel Andrews, 2.
Matthias Harvey, Fyde.
Samuel Furman, ½.
Alice Crabb, 1.
Henry Townsend, Jr., 1.
Gideon Wright, 1.
Richard Crabb, 1.
George Dennis, 1.
Thomas Townsend, 2.
Joseph Weeks, 1.
John Weeks, of Warwick, 1.
Thomas Weeks, 1.
Moses Furman, ½.
James Weeks, 1.
Latamore Sampson, *alias* Simon Cooper, 4."

None but these freeholders were eligible to office. These divisions, giving every man numerous small,

detached parcels of land (the divisions were sometimes as small as five acres, very seldom, if ever, more than thirty), originated a system of exchanges and frequent sales, which make the Records a complete family history for every owner; for the person who gives a deed seldom fails to tell how he came by the land, and what degree of relationship existed between him and the purchaser, as well as former owner. Every farm in the Old Purchase (except four hundred acres at Cove Neck Point, laid out to Simon Cooper, upon his right purchased of Sampson), and many of those in the New, were formed by this process of exchange and purchase.

The settlers had very little tillable land beside their home lots and the Planting Fields, which, being called in the oldest Records the "Old Planting Fields," were probably used by the Indians for that purpose. Indeed, more land than a man could cultivate with his own family, was of no present use; they had slaves, but they were too few to be taken into the account, and hired laborers there were none. Notwithstanding the scarcity of labor, however, they did not confine their attention to the mere necessaries, in their agriculture. As early as 1669, a place sold by Nicholas Simpkins is described as having upon it twenty-four apple-trees in bearing, and one pear-tree. In 1673, Thomas Townsend, in selling a place, reserves the apple, peach, and cherry trees; and in 1680, John Robins reserves not only apple-trees, but a nursery of apple and peach trees, at Matinacock. And, strange as it may appear, in those days of cheap land and dear labor, land-owners thought it worth

while to lease more land. The following copy gives not only the terms of such a lease, but the prices of grain then current:

"This instrument of writing witnesseth, that I, Robert Godfree, of Littleworth, within the township of Oyster Bay, have let to farm, all my improved lands and meadows at Littleworth, unto Isaac Doughty and William Crooker, to them, their executors, or assigns, for the full term of *seven* years, from the date hereof underwritten, to occupy, possess, and improve, as they see cause, without hindrance or molestation from me, or any from me, or under me, they paying and fulfilling to me, and my order, as followeth, viz.: they are to set one hundred apple-trees out into my said land, in order for an orchard, and fence it in with a three-rail fence, and keep the apple-trees well pruned. Secondly, they are to pay to me, or my heirs or assigns, three pounds yearly, during the full term of seven years, good merchantable wheat, at five shillings a bushel, or Indian corn, at two shillings, sixty pounds to the bushel, rye, at three shillings the bushel, and oats and peas, as it passes between neighbor and neighbor; the said grains so paid yearly, to be paid to me, or my order, before the 1st of March, at the house of Isaac Doughty; but it is to be understood, the one-half the rent is to be paid in good winter wheat, and the said apple-trees are to be planted out this ensuing spring, and what apple-trees more shall be set out upon my land by them, or fences made better at the expiration of the time, shall be allowed out of the rent, as honest men shall judge; or if they shall see cause to build

a house or barn upon the said land, it shall be paid or allowed out of the rent, being valued as aforesaid. And to the true performance of this, our aforesaid agreement, we have interchangeably to each other, subscribed our hands, and set to our seals, in Oyster Bay, 16th day of October, 1682."

The value of land, for many years after the settlement, can only be determined by a comparison of the few cases in which the price and quantity are mentioned, with the prices of other things. In the older deeds the price is rarely mentioned, the quantity of land still more rarely, and when both are stated, the value frequently consisted, in a great measure, in the buildings and other improvements. There are a few instances, however, that will enable us to form some judgment in the matter. Thomas Townsend and Richard Harcut, appraisers of the property of Samuel Mayo, consisting of a home lot, and a share of meadow, containing two acres and a quarter, valued the whole at twenty-five pounds. The home lot was the place lately owned by Hamilton, containing six acres, one of the best in the village. This was in 1671, and about the same time, at the division of John Townsend's estate, a bed and furniture was valued at ten pounds, and two cows at the same. Not very long afterwards, Thomas Townsend bought the Fort Neck estate from the Indians (Dr. Peter S. Townsend says, nearly four miles square), for fifteen pounds, and Joseph Ludlum paid one hundred pounds for a homestead containing seventeen acres (Mrs. Miner's place), with the buildings and privileges belonging to it.

Indeed, this homestead, with the privileges attached, bore about the same relative value to the Fort Neck property that a fine house on Fifth Avenue bears to a township in Oregon; and the home meadows, as they called those near the village, were held at a higher value than even the home lots. The value which they set upon their movables, meaning household furniture, farming utensils, trade tools, and live-stock, is to our ideas very amusing; it is impossible to read without a smile the wills which we will insert, of the leading people, gravely dividing the most insignificant articles among their children. But the reason is obvious enough. All these things came from England with them, and could only be replaced from there at an enormous cost, compared with their intrinsic value. Such things were scarce everywhere in this country, but probably particularly so here, for every one of the early settlers had made other homes before this, some as many as four; and considering the difficulty of transportation, and the fact that many of them had been obliged to leave their first settlements hurriedly, on account of religious persecutions, it is easy to see that the stock of goods, as well as money, with which they emigrated, must have been sadly diminished. This high value continued to attach to movables (except cattle) for many years, of which we find an amusing instance as late as 1720. The arbitrators, in a dispute between Robert Coles and his stepson, Robert Shadbolt, after deciding the ownership of houses and lands, make the following award:

"Robert Shadbolt shall have the meanest of them two

feather-beds, which was in the house where he now lives, which was his mother's, as also a bolster and two pillows, and a checkered coverlet, and one of the straw beds, and a set of blue curtains, and all his mother's wearing clothes that are in the house now, and the high candlesticks, and one of the looking-glasses, and all the window curtains in the house, and one iron pot, that was his mother's, being at Joseph Wolsey's."

This is one of the only two instances in which clothes are mentioned; they seem to have been plenty enough; curtains, especially bed-curtains, appear to have been considered necessaries.

The wives and daughters generally got the movables. The father, having lands of which he could make no use himself, gave them to his sons as they grew up, and the older ones being thus provided for, the homestead usually fell to the youngest, and was sometimes given to him during the life of the parents, upon condition of his making a certain provision for them; but generally the wife had the homestead (occasionally only a part of it) during her life, or widowhood. It was a matter of course that she would marry again, unless advanced in years. In such a simple society, it was very easy for a man to start in life, and maintain a family as well as his neighbors, consequently they married young; and being, as in all new settlements, more numerous than women, they were quite ready to marry an attractive widow with a family of children, especially as, though *we* should not call either mother or children rich, they could bring their full proportion to the common stock.

The only instances remembered of widows remaining unmarried, during the first fifty years of the settlement, were the two Elizabeths, widows of John Townsend and John Dickinson, who had each of them nine children, several of them married when they became widows. Nor is it surprising that the most afflicted should be induced to accept a second husband, whose strong arm was needed to make her property and that of her children available to their support.

It does not appear to have been considered, that a wife had any right in her husband's real estate; for many years she rarely joins in a deed (we might almost say never), unless the property originally belonged to her. But in several cases where a man died intestate, the wife, with the consent and advice of her husband's nearest male relations, divided the estate among the children, retaining the use of a part, or the whole, during her life or widowhood. If the wife had no interest in her husband's real estate, it is very difficult to find out what right he had in hers. There is an illustration of the uncertainty that they felt themselves about the matter in the following deed:

"I, Alice Crabb, of Oyster Bay, do by these presents, assign and make over all my right, title, and interest, in this above-written deed, unto my son Adam Wright, and his heirs forever, only I do reserve to myself the use of the share of meadow, mentioned in this deed, during my life, and after my decease it is to redown to my son Adam, and his heirs, forever, as witness my hand, in Oyster Bay, this 26th day of June, 1675.

"It is to be understood that, although Richard Crabb be not mentioned in the above-written deed, yet, notwithstanding, he being considered head or chief, do by these presents confirm that his said wife, Alice Crabb, hath done by this assignment, only the said Richard Crabb reserves the above said *shear of meadow to his own disposal.*"

Fortunately, there were no lawyers to suggest a doubt about the title to that "shear of meadow."

The highest assessment, on a list made in 1683, is £220; the person so assessed was Mary Willets (widow of Richard), of Jericho, sister of the wife of Robert Williams. Through her father, and brother William, and Hope Washbourne, she became possessed of a large tract of land, being a part of that held by Williams. She was the ancestress of all the Willets in the town. Her son Richard left a memorandum of his birth, marriage, the birth of his daughter, and death of his wife, which the Clerk of the Meeting thought worthy of a place on the record, from which we shall copy it, for although "an oft-told tale," it has been seldom told with such brief, simple pathos.

"I was born on the 25th of tenth month, 1660, and I continued with my mother until I was 25 years of age; and in the year 1686, on the 25th day of the 1st month, I took Abigail Bowne to wife, and we continued together until the 25th of the 11th month following, and then she bare me a daughter, and she called her name Hannah; and we enjoyed each other, in great love, until the 16th of the 4th month, 1689, and then

the Lord took her to Himself, and left me, Richard Willets, a sorrowful man, with my motherless babe."

The only mention of a schoolmaster is in 1677, when "Thomas Webb, schoolmaster," was appointed Town-Clerk, with a salary of forty shillings. It is singular that many of those who could write, habitually made their mark. Some of these markers do occasionally write their names; others were surveyors, and must have been not only able to write, but in the habit of it. The writing and orthography of the oldest books of Record are unexceptionable (indeed, much of the writing is very handsome, but so different from that to which we are accustomed as to make it somewhat difficult to read), which is more than can be said for some entries several years later. The first physician in Oyster Bay was "Simon Cooper, chirurgeon;" his son Robert was also a chirurgeon. The assessment list, which we mentioned above (from the "Documentary History of New York"), had a note subjoined, stating that the inhabitants, being "sickly," had not sent in their lists. In a paper left by Squire George Townsend, of Norwich, he says that his grandfather and his brother died in what was called "the great sickness" (1697), and continued to be so called when he wrote, 1769. There is an entry on the Town Record that the Town Meeting, April 7th, 1747, was held at Wolver Hollow, "by reason of the small-pox distemper being in the town."

No clergyman of any denomination is alluded to, except in the deposition of Samuel Titus, already copied, and the following entry:

"At a Town Meeting, Feb. 19th, 1693. This day the Town met together, in order to a late Act of Assembly, for settling two ministers in the County, but nothing done about it, but made return that it was against their judgment, therefore could act nothing about it."

Among the most important officers of the Town, if not the most so, was that of Surveyor. Two were elected every year, but the same ones were re-elected many times. John Townsend, at Mill, held the office nineteen years, being elected in 1686, with Thomas Weeks, who served with him, until '95 or '96, when Rhode Island John Townsend took his place. Mill John died in 1705, and was succeeded by his nephew, the 3d Henry; he and Rhode Island John both dying in 1709, were replaced, after a short interval, by James Townsend, of Jericho, and George Townsend, of Oyster Bay, who continued to be elected for twenty years. The fee at first was sixpence per acre, but in 1686 was reduced to three. The inducement to hold the office was to obtain such a knowledge of all the land in the town as would enable them to purchase and exchange advantageously. But when the price of this work, or of any thing else, is mentioned, it is not to be supposed that money was the medium of payment. That was very rarely the case; if "movables" were scarce, money was more so, and there are constant allusions to payments in produce, at stipulated prices. We will copy a specimen of these transactions.

In 1692, Henry Townsend sold several parcels of land, at the Planting Fields, to John Dowsbury, for sixty

pounds of silver money, current in the colony, to be paid by annual instalments of five pounds, but "it is to be understood that these several payments, before expressed, are to be paid, the one half in money, the other half in goods, at money price." The following is the receipt for the first payment:

"Received, this last day of October, 1693. Then received of John Dowsbury, in this within-mentioned bill, one cow, one calf, and two years' old heifer, at the sum of five pounds, being in full of the first year's payment, according to the within-written obligation. I say received by me, HENRY TOWNSEND."

Even the half stipulated to be paid in money was not forthcoming. This scarcity of money, however, we know to have been general. As an illustration of it, we may mention that when William Bradford issued proposals for printing the Bible, in New York, in 1688, the price was to be twenty shillings, but the proposals contain a clause that the pay may be half silver, "or they who really have not money, goods at money price will satisfy." A people who had little or no money, or surplus produce, could buy little, and they were obliged to supply their wants among themselves as they best could. They had sheep, and of course raised flax, though it is not mentioned in the Records. Weavers and shoemakers were in abundance, so that they had no difficulty about clothing and house linen (though a single sheet is more than once mentioned in a will). Their

chief trouble was the want of a competent blacksmith. They no doubt required an accomplished artist, who could keep their iron-ware of all kinds as good as new for twice its natural life, and then contrive something to answer the purpose out of the remains. The first one mentioned was John Thomson, whom the Town receives as blacksmith, and allots to him a home lot, which if he die in the Town is to belong to his heirs, but if he leaves is to return to the Town, they paying for his improvements. For a while things went on very smoothly, allotments were made here and there to John Thomson, and he was evidently in high favor. Suddenly there was a change; at a Town Meeting, in 1677, the Constable, Thomas Townsend, was ordered to "give notice to John Thomson to resine up the land, which the Town formerly gave him, for a breach of covenant, being then entertained as the Town smith, or to answer the Town's complaints the next session at Jamaica." This reads as though the land had been given for a breach of covenant, a blunder which would have been avoided had their Constable drafted the resolution, his style being remarkable for clearness. John did not "resine up" the land, but appointed two attorneys to maintain his right to it. The Constable was ordered to take possession; but finally the Town and the attorneys agreed that he should have liberty to sell his house and lands to any that the town approves, "but not to come and live in it himself." The house was sold to Joseph Ludlum, and there the matter ended. Soon after that, Abraham Alling, or Alen, was accepted as smith. His

lot, however, was granted upon the terms usual in such gifts, that is, to be built upon in a year and a day, or forfeited. He seems to have given entire satisfaction as long as he exercised his trade, which was not, however, many years; he took up land, and continued to add to it, until he owned the tract on the east side of Mill Neck, now divided into four farms, one of which (that at the Point, then called Cedar Point) still belongs to his descendants. There are other negotiations with blacksmiths, showing that for many years the settlement of one in the village was a public concern.

In 1661, the grant of the Mill Stream was made to Henry Townsend. Dr. Peter Townsend says that before he built the mill, the people were obliged to carry their grain across to Norwalk to be ground, and that he was invited here to build the mill by the Wrights and John Dickinson. This is tradition, but is no doubt true. The original grant and the property conveyed by it are now in the possession of George Townsend, great-great-great-great-grandson of Henry.

"Oyster Bay, September 16th, 1861. Be it known unto all men by these presents, that we, the Inhabiters of the Town of Oyster Bay, on Long Island, in America, whose names are underwritten—we do by these presents, firmly covenant, and engage, unto Henry Townsend, now in the said town, upon condition the said Henry Townsend do build such a mill, as at Norwalk, on the Main, or an English mill, on our stream, called by us, the Mill River, at the west end of our

Town, then we do give and confirm such lands to him, his heirs, and assigns, forever, without molestation or condition, as, namely, all the mill lot, bounded with Henry Disbrow's lot on the east side; the salt meadow on the north end; Anthony Wright's meadow lot on the west; and the highway on the south; and the said Anthony Wright's lot is given also to the said Henry Townsend, that adjoin to the aforesaid mill lot on the east, and Latting's salt meadow on the north end, and a highway on the west side, two poles broad, between the said stream, and mill lot, and the highway on the south; and we give him also the salt meadow and upland, on the west side the mill stream, to a little stream of water, on the west side of it, and the sea is the north bounds; on the south a highway of six poles broad joining unto the Swamp. And we do hereby give unto Henry Townsend the said mill stream to build a mill or mills on it, as he shall see cause, and so to remain firm to him, his heirs, and assigns, so long as he or they do keep a mill on it, as aforesaid. But if the mill cease to be for half a year after it is built, and no preparation is made to repair the mill again, that then the Town may lawfully enter on the River again, as their own, and improve it as the Town shall see necessary. But if the said Henry Townsend's heirs or assigns do make preparation to repair the mill, so that it be finished for service, after a year's decay, that the said stream shall continue his or theirs, on condition a mill be kept up, or else the stream to return to the Town, as aforesaid; and therefore we give him by this full

power to trench and dam, and to take what timber he hath need of for his use, and to have commoning for his cattle, and on our charges, we engage to trench and make a dam for the mill, as he shall give direction, when he calls to have it done. And we allow him the tenth part for grinding; but if, in process of time, the toll do so increase, that less may be sufficient to uphold the mill, so that the miller be not discouraged, he shall have less, as understanding men, in the case, chosen by him and us, shall judge. His toll dish to be made true, and to be struck in taking the toll, and we engage no other than what is before mentioned, shall be made join to the forementioned lands we have given to said Henry Townsend, and we are content, that the mill do app in a week to grind our corn, and that when the said Henry Townsend do fence in the above-said land, that such as have upland or meadow joining to the above said, shall join in fencing with him their half, according to English custom, and is to have it, all rates and taxes free, forever, and to enter in present possession on the stream and lands. And so, to the true, and due, and faithful performance, of all and every of the above-mentioned engagements and promises, we bind us, our heirs and assigns, to perform, unto the said Henry Townsend, his heirs and assigns, as witness our hand, the day and year above written, upon condition he build a mill as aforesaid, serviceable to the Town of Oyster Bay, in the condition the town now is in, as the Mill at Norwalk is serviceable to their town.

"Nicholas Simkins,
Robert Furman,
Benjamin Hubbard,
Richard Latting,
Anthony Wright,
Francis Weeks,
Henry Disbrow,
Richard Harcut,
John Richbill,
Nicholas Wright,
Matthew Bridgman, Town Clerk,
John Finch,
John Dickinson,
Jonas Halstead,
John Bates,
John Townsend, Sen.,
John Townsend, Jr.,
Thomas Armitage."

Some part of the land given in this grant only came into Henry Townsend's possession (or that of his sons) by purchase. It is impossible to fix the western boundary now, but, as it was a stream of water, it could not have been much if any west of the canal.

The following entry, in relation to some dissatisfaction with the miller, is an illustration of the simplicity of the habits and ideas of the people. Dr. P. Townsend says that Richard Harcut was the miller at one time, and probably when the complaint was made:

"30th of 7th month, 1672. At a Town Meeting, ordered by reason of aspersions cast upon the miller, the Town have taken it into serious consideration, and have ordered, with the consent and agreement of Henry Townsend, owner of the mill, that if any person or persons do not like their usage at the mill, they are to give notice of it to the miller, and attend himself, or his wife, if he have one, and see their corn ground, if they will, but if they will not attend the grinding, and do cast blemishes, notwithstanding, on the miller, they are at liberty to grind in another place, and the miller at his liberty, whether he will grind again for any such

person or persons until him or them do tender such reasonable satisfaction, as may be adjudged just by the Town."

Henry Townsend also built a saw-mill, for the use of which the Town gave him the following grant of timber:

"24th of 9th month, 1673. A Town Meeting held, and granted by the Town, that Henry Townsend shall have, and hath liberty to make use of what timber he shall stand in need of for his saw-mill, within the bounds and limits of our Town, that is to be understood, Pine Island, or any other common lands, to make use of, either for building, or to sell in the town, or to sell out of the town, as he shall see cause: the said grant is to be understood to be to Henry Townsend and his heirs forever."

It does not appear from the Records where this mill was. Henry Townsend, 2d, Robert, and two of the Birdsalls, put up a saw-mill at Mill Neck, in 1694. In 1678, a grant was made to Isaac Horner, of the mill privileges at Shoo Brook, for a fulling-mill, but he did not build it; and in 1684, it was given to John Dowsbury, who made extensive improvements (among the rest a brick house), not very much to his advantage, as upon his death the property was sold by the Sheriff, at the suit of Wm. Bradford, to Samuel Hayden, who again sold to Nicholas Lang, who at his death left a part of it to his son-in-law, William Moyles, who bought the rights of the other heirs. Moyles married the second time, Mary, widow of Ruemourn Townsend, to whose daughters, Mary Willis and Sarah Hewlett, he

left one-third of his estate. Townsend Hewlett, the son of Sarah, bought from his mother and the other heirs, and left it to his son, the late Wm. M. Hewlett.

In 1668, a piece of upland at Ash Swamp was laid out to Nicholas Davis, with liberty to build a wharf into the sea, at what is now Ship Point (but not called by that name for some years afterwards). This grant was forfeited, and the foot of South street is called the Dock.

The "old brick-kill" is mentioned in 1672, which seems to have been in the Cove. In 1678, there was a brick-yard near the brook, east of South street, then called Anthony's Brook, and the lot on the north side of the street was called the "clay lot" for a great many years. In 1680, a brick-kiln is mentioned on Hog Island. The following will shows that, at the date of it, the testator was engaged in making brick:

"Oyster Bay, 23d of the 8th month, 1673. I, William Risbie, Sen., of Oyster Bay, being sick, but having my understanding, and do not know what the Lord will do with me, concerning life or death, am willing to settle matters, so that none may suffer by me; and therefore I shall relate how matters stand, of what I owe, and is owing me; how my estate lieth, and in what, as followeth. I am indebted to Wm. Buckler, nine pounds; to Robert Coe, of Jamaica, I owe five pounds, and I do owe to George Dennis, forty-nine shillings, beside what my daughter Mary had, in broadcloth,—in all, it was three pounds nine shillings. I am indebted to James Brooking five pounds two; to John Gatts, ten shillings. I am something in debt to Joseph Carpenter, and

Daniel Coles. To Nicholas Simkins, in brick, two pounds ten. To Samuel Weeks, twelve shillings. Here followeth an account of what is due me: From Thomas Townsend, ten shillings. Matthias Harvey owes me two pounds one shilling, and Joseph Ludlum owes me five shillings. Robert Bragall, at Hempstead, two pecks of wheat. Thomas Thomson owes me one bushel. James Townsend owes me five shillings; and to John Rogers, I owe one pound one shilling. Jonathan Rock Smith have a mare of mine in his hands, and one gray mare and colt, at Matinecock; and of cow-kind, I have one young cow, and white steer, at Thomas Townsend's; Samuel Weeks have a three-year old steer, and Elizabeth Townsend have another, of the same age; and I have one more three-year old steer at Matthias Harvey's, and another at James Cock's, and an ox and cow at the Widow Underhill's, and I have two fat cows at Richard Harcut's, and John Dickenson's; a cow at halves, and a steer I had of Adam Wright, and two three-year old heifers, at John Townsend's; and a cow I had of Nathaniel Coles, he is to have her again, for work. My will is, that my debts are to be paid out of my estate, and the remainder I give to Richard Harcurt, as witness my hand, except one cow, I give to my wife and daughter Sarah.

"WILLIAM ☐ RISBIE.

"The mark of.

"MEMORANDUM.—I, William Risbie, do owe to Widow Dennis, or her order, 13,500 bricks, upon Richard Harcurt's account, and I, William Risbie, do own, that

I have received full satisfaction for the aforesaid bricks, from Richard Harcurt, as witness my hand, in the presence of

"Nathaniel Coles, William ☐ Risbie.
"Benj. Hubbard. His mark."

In 1694, "liberty is granted to Thomas Youngs, to spin rope yarn, and make rope in the Hollow by his shop, on the common, not prejudicing any highway."

Although the people had little money, that did not deter merchants from trying their fortunes here. The first mentioned is John Richbill, who soon sold his large interest in the town, and disappeared. Next we have George Dennis, who, after a few very busy years, was obliged to assign his property for the benefit of his creditors. Then Pierre Breton, merchant, sells his good sloop, the True-Love, now lying, and lately built at Oyster Bay, to his son-in-law, Pierre Dugo, mariner. At the close of the seventeenth century, we have a notable person, in the character of merchant, William Bradford, the first printer and publisher in New York; for several years before 1703 he is styled, in his deeds, merchant, of Oyster Bay; then, and after that, printer, of New York, though he appears to have carried on his publishing and printing while he lived here. Some of the old books of Records have an inscription to the effect that they were bought of William Bradford.

The following entries show how the few poor were provided for, and how cases of intemperance were dealt with, for although intemperance is not stated to be the

cause of the incapacity mentioned, in the second extract, it no doubt was, as the will of the father, Robert Furman, shows that Moses labored under no natural incapacity.

"The 1st day of February, 1661. All we, whose names are here underwritten, do hereby engage ourselves that we will give freely, toward the maintenance of the Widow Draper, so much Indian corn for a year, beginning at the 1st day of February, 1661, to end the 1st day of February, 1662, provided we may be no more troubled with her, more than the rent of the house, and that there be some person appointed to receive it, and to look to it and her, so that it may not be wasted. So much corn as followeth:

"John Richbill,	3 bush.	John Dickinson,	2 bush.
Robert Furman,	2 "	Francis Weeks,	2 "
John Townsend, Jr.	1 "	Moses Furman,	1 "
Nicholas Wright,	2 "	Benj. Hubbard,	2 "
John Townsend,	2 "	Henry Townsend,	1 "
Thomas Armitage,	2 "	John Bates,	1 "
Jones Halstead,	2 "	Samuel Andrews,	3 bush."

It will be observed that Moses Furman, who, in the following paper, acknowledges his incapacity to sell five shillings' worth, was one of the contributors.

"This writing testifieth that I, Moses Furman, of Oyster Bay, upon divers considerations, finding myself not capable to deal with any man, or trade for the good of myself and family, being of a weak capacity, I do by these presents, constitute and appoint the officers of the

Town of Oyster Bay, as now, and for the time to come, as overseers of my whole estate, for the use and maintenance of my wife and children as their own; and I do further engage and promise not to make sale of, to the value of five shillings, at any time, without the consent of one or all the officers, that now are, or hereafter shall be, as witness my hand, in presence of us.

"Saml. Andrews, Moses Furman."

"Caleb Wright.

After making this assignment of his property, Furman left, and the Town officers made arrangements with a man to take his property in charge, and provide for the wife, and fulfil his obligations to his mother, under his father's will; and they also resolved to put out the children to be brought up, as they said the mother was not capable. Before they completed their design, Furman returned, and then left again, which he repeated to their great annoyance.

There are frequent instances of differences being settled by arbitration, boundaries being the principal cause of dispute, which is no more than might be expected, considering the extreme vagueness with which the boundaries of the land granted by the town are described, of which the mill grant is a striking instance, though it is not known that it occasioned any dispute.

It is surprising how few allusions are made in the Records to boats, or ship-building, or to navigation in any way. We should think a boat as well worth mention in a will as many articles they bequeath; but they are never

mentioned. Ship Point is so called early in the eighteenth century, perhaps a few years before that. It is probable that, even then, there was a considerable trade here. By the middle of the century, we know that the business was very important. Samuel Townsend was actively engaged in the English and West India trade, building and owning several ships of different kinds. William and Benjamin Hawxhurst, too, operated largely, owning fulling and grist mills at Cold Spring, and a store (probably one at Cold Spring, and one at Oyster Bay), for which they imported goods from England. Their business was probably more extensive than the field warranted, for they failed and removed to New York. Samuel Townsend continued his business prosperously until the Revolution, and through that period, notwithstanding many difficulties and obstructions. After that, the trade of the place was transferred to New York.

There is not the slightest allusion made in the Record to the French War. The only person whom we know to have gone from the town was Melancthon Taylor Woolsey, son of the Rev. Benjamin Woolsey, who entered the army as Colonel, and died during the war. He was buried at Dosoris, his residence, which, after his death, was sold to John Butler, from whom it descended to his daughter, the wife of Nathaniel Coles. James Townsend, of Duck Pond, was the executor of Benjamin, the brother of Colonel Woolsey, and among other letters left in his hands, were some from Colonel Woolsey, written during the war. The most of them were given by J. C. Townsend, to a descendant of Benjamin,

but we have found three more, two of them relating to the disastrous attack on Ticonderoga, and the other, probably, written during his last sickness. We shall insert them, as interesting in themselves, and possessing a peculiar interest for the people of this Town, as coming from a townsman.

"*July 5th*, 1758.
"On Board the Fleet on Lake George.

"Dear Brother:—The fate of Ticonderoga will doubtless be determined before this reaches you, as we are now embarked, with fourteen thousand troops, all eager for victory, and willing to expose themselves, in order to obtain it. You will doubtless be uneasy to hear from us after this, as it is most likely many of our fates will be unalterably fixed. But I have a strong impression, that I shall survive the day of battle, and not because I desire to hide myself, but hope you may hear something honorable, whether I stand or fall. And as no man can tell the event, lest it should be my lot to be found among the slain, I shall now recommend to your kindness my wife and children, family, and estate, to be treated with the utmost tenderness, and disposed of, agreeable to a will, in Mr. Lloyd's hands, which, I make no doubt, you will execute, with all the integrity, care, and prudence, you are master of, together with James and Joseph Lloyd. But notwithstanding this hint, I hope soon to send you the agreeable news of the French fortresses, at the Narrows, and Crown Point, being subjected to our arms. Then we shall be willing to march and carry fire and sword into

Canada, and return by the way of St. Lawrence. But be that as it will. Give my best regards to all friends and acquaintances. My duty to my mother. Love to your wife and family. I would have wrote to all my friends if time was my own, but nothing is to be seen here but one continued round of hurry; so am forced to conclude, and am your most affectionate brother,

"M. Taylor Woolsey."

"Schenectady, 26*th July*, 1758.

"Dear Brother:—I wrote you in high spirits, at the time of embarkation for Ticonderoga, when it seemed that Providence was lavish of smiles upon our enterprise, and we as foolish, in not making a proper use of the advantages put into our hands; for which neglect, the devil take somebody! I also wrote you again on our return, or rather flight, giving some account of our having most sadly Be——st the voyage, and suffered greatly, especially in the person of Lord Howe, whose conduct and prudence, I make no doubt, would have saved the lives of many brave fellows, who were set as targets to be fired at by the enemy, without being allowed to return the fire; and had they returned it, would have been to but little purpose, as the enemy had a breastwork of wood and earth which quite covered them. In this action we lost about eighteen hundred killed and wounded, amongst whom were a great many officers of worth. The only one among the provincials that you know, was your intended brother, Lieutenant Smith, whose wound proved mortal, notwithstanding the best

endeavors of all the surgeons. He died the day after we were ordered to march to this place, and is much lamented by all his acquaintance with us, as he was esteemed an active, good officer. Major Woodhull has taken care of all his effects, which you'll be good enough to inform his father of, and tell him I bear a part in his affliction. We are now under marching orders, and are going to the Oneida Carrying Place, as 'tis said, to build a fort for some General Webb to destroy hereafter. 'Tis Colonel Delancey's opinion, as soon as this is completed, we are to be discharged, and, as our number will be about four thousand, suppose we may do it in two months. We have great desertions lately, and some deaths, but not of your acquaintance. We have one hundred and thirty sick, but most likely to do well. Give my best regards to all friends. My duty to mother. Love to my wife, and yours, with the little ones. I am in haste. Your loving brother,

"M. Taylor Woolsey.

"To Benj. Woolsey."

"Schenectady, 24*th Aug.*, 1758.

"Dear Brother:—Your favor, per the old post-boy, came safe to hand, at the Great Carrying Place, with the agreeable accounts of health and welfare of my friends on Long Island. Though at the time of receiving your letter, I was myself very ill of a fever and flux, which occasioned my being sent to this place, which is one hundred miles from the regiment. Two days before I left the army, there was a detachment from

the several regiments of two thousand men, officers included, with seventy batteaux and seventy whale-boats, under the command of Colonel Bradstreet, who are gone down the Wood Creek, into the Oneida Lake, to surprise, take, and destroy Cadroque, a fort on the lake, where the French keep their shipping and craft of all kinds. There are one thousand of the New York regiments gone on this expedition. Colonel Clinton, Colonel Corse, and Major Woodhull are the field-officers from one regiment, and all the soldiers from Long Island that were well are gone. As they have not been in action, we are in hopes of hearing some agreeable accounts from them soon. We have sundry times lately had certain accounts that Louisberg is taken, but soon turns out false. Last Saturday evening, on my arrival here, found the town illuminated, but whether true or false, can't yet determine. Have nothing to add, but duty, love, and good wishes to you all, and am your loving brother,

"M. Taylor Woolsey.

"I have so far recovered my health, that I hope to join the army in ten days or a fortnight. M. T."

Major Woodhull, mentioned in these letters, was afterwards General Woodhull, who, after the battle of Long Island, was taken prisoner by the British, and died of wounds received after his surrender.

THE TOWN SPOT,

Or Plot, as it is sometimes called, extended from the foot of Mill Hill to Cove Hill, and as far south as the head of South street, which was the only one beside the Main street for some little time. In the old deeds, and even as late as 1748, South street is called the Main street, and was, no doubt, so considered. The one leading from Edward Weeks's to Pine Hollow was soon opened, and then that between Edward Weeks's and B. T. Underhill's. Quogue Lane was not opened for a good many years, and was at first called Oyster Lane. There was a road from the Main street to the water farther west, but the formation of the Pond and dam, and the subsequent changes in them (the Pond was originally much smaller, and the dam at the east end farther south), make it impossible to determine localities in that immediate neighborhood with precision. East of that there is no difficulty, except in a few cases.

The most western building in the Town Spot, for some years, was the mill, which stood very near what is now the southeast corner of George Townsend's yard. The house now there was, in 1720, called Esther Townsend's new dwelling-house, and was probably built by her (the widow of Mill John). The one which was on the Hill, northeast of the present house, was probably built by Henry Townsend, Sen., in 1683. For a great many years after the mill was built, the bolting was done by hand, by the owners of the grain. Henry

Townsend 2d sold to Wm. Bradford twenty-five acres, just south of his house, on the Hill (including the grave-yard, which he reserved, being one acre). Here Bradford erected a bolting-house; Henry 3d repurchased the whole in 1703. It is not known when or by whom the second mill, which stood near the present flood-gate, was built, but probably by Jotham, son of Mill John. The mill now standing was built near the close of the last century, by James Townsend, of Duck Pond, and his son William.

East of the mill-dam, on the south side of the street, the first house belonged to Richard Harcut, and the next was built by John Washbourne, and sold to James Halsted, who very soon sold to Richard Harcut, and he (Harcut), moving to the other end of the town, gave one or both of these places to his son Daniel. East of this was Mark Meggs's place. He very soon disappears from the Records. Across the street was a place belonging to Richard Latting, which he sold to Samuel Andrews. At the bottom of the deed is a memorandum that Latting owed four days' work on the dam, and no more; from which we gather that the lots were assessed for labor on the dam, and the obligation transferred with the property.

Next, east of this, Henry Townsend bought, or built; and next to him, on what is now the corner of Quogue Lane, Henry Disbrow built, and, in 1661, sold to John Dickenson, who in the same year sold to James Cock (or Coke, as it is sometimes spelled), of Setauket. In 1669, Henry Townsend bought and gave it to his son John; and in 1683, having six acres laid out to him

upon the Hill, he built there, and gave the one in which he lived to his son Henry. John and Henry then exchanged houses, and their descendants exchanged, until it is difficult to know or remember to whom they belong. They sold it off, too, by degrees, until, a few years after the death of Jotham, in about 1756, the whole, from Quogue Lane to the mill-stream, belonged to Benjamin Hawxhurst, as well as a quarter of an acre on the south side of the road. It was bought again by the son of Jotham.

East of Quogue Lane, John Dickenson lived on a lot bought from John Hinksman, in 1658, the second deed from a white man on the Records. It is as follows:

"*To all Christian people, to whom this shall or may come, greeting:* Be it known unto all men, that I, John Hinksman, late of Oyster Bay, have sold, and by these presents do alienate, bargain, and sell, and have sold, unto John Dickenson, of Oyster Bay, aforesaid, all and singular all that parcel of land which I exchanged with Peter Wright, with all and singular all the fencing, meadows, and uplands that is or shall thereunto belong, with all the appurtenances or privileges whatsoever, to him, his heirs, or assigns, forever; for and in consideration hereof, John Dickenson hath paid unto the said John Hinksman, in broadcloth, at eighteen shillings a yard, the full and just sum of three pounds sterling, and twenty shillings paid in liquor to the Town of Oyster Bay, by the hand of John Dickenson. Also, a quart of sack and half a pint of liquor to Peter Wright, for the exchange.

In witness hereof, I have hereunto set my hand, this day of Feb., in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and fifty-nine. JOHN HINKSMAN."

This place was bequeathed by John Dickenson to his widow Elizabeth, who left it to her youngest son, Jobus, by the will we copy below. It passed from him to Joseph, who married Rose, daughter of Henry Townsend, whose grandsons, Townsend and Henry, sold it to Daniel Parish, in 1756.

"In the name of God, amen. I, Elizabeth Dickinson, widow, of Oyster Bay, in Queen's Co., on Long Island, and in the Colony of New York, being somewhat weakly and sick, but in perfect memory and understanding, praised be God, I now make my last will and testament, as followeth: Imp. I bequeath my body to the earth, and my soul to God that gave it. Imp. I give to my son Jobus my house and lot, with the orchard and meadow adjoining it, meaning all that I now possess adjoining to my house and home lot, in Oyster Bay aforesaid, with a half a share of meadow on the West Neck, at the south of Oyster Bay aforesaid, during his natural life; also, I give to him, the said Jobus, one bed, and a bolster, a pillow, and coverlet, and blanket, with one sheet; and at my son Jobus his decease, all this that I have given him I do give to my eldest son Joseph, him and his heirs forever.

"Imp. I give to my son Samuel, five shares of land, at the plains, more than that which I have already given him, and this to be his full portion.

"Imp. I give to my son James, two-thirds, or two rights of three, of my land in the Old Purchase of Oyster Bay, on the west side of Nicholas Wright's land, in the Old Purchase, going to Lusum, as the Records of Oyster Bay showeth how it is bounded and laid out, with half a share of meadow on the West Neck, at Oyster Bay south, five acres of land at the plains; and my right of commonage belonging to my home lot I give to my three sons, Samuel, Jobus, James, equally between them. Also, I give to my son James, one bed, a bolster, a pillow, a coverlet, a blanket, and one sheet. Imp. I give to my daughter Hannah, my bed I lie on, with the bolsters, and two pillows, a coverlet, two blankets, a pair of sheets, with the curtains and vallons belonging to it, with one chest, two pillow covers.

"Imp. I give all my cart, and plough gear, and tacklings, with the cart and plough and that which belongs to it, to my son James. Imp. I give to my grandson, Robert Harcut, two sheep. All the residue of my estate I give to my youngest daughters, Mehetable, Cheshire, and Hannah, both of household goods and with all that I am possessed of, after my debts are paid and other charges necessary are paid out of it. Lastly, I do make my son Joseph my full and whole executor, to dispose of my estate according to this my last will and testament above written. And also I do make John Townsend at the mill, with my son Joseph, to be overseers of this my last will, which I declare to be my last will and testament, as witness my hand and seal, this 10th Sept., 1691. Elizabeth Dickinson."

Gideon, the son of Peter Wright, married Elizabeth, daughter of John Townsend 1st, and settled on the place now belonging to Edward Weeks. His son Anthony sold it to Justice John Townsend, from whom it descended to his son Penn, who built the house now upon it. We give the will of Gideon Wright below; it is a good specimen of the manner in which the people generally left their property:

"In the name of God, I, Gideon Wright, being weak of body, but of sound and perfect memory, do make and ordain this my last will and testament, in manner and form following: First, I bequeath my body to the earth and my soul into the hands of God that gave it. Itt. I give to my eldest son, Peter Wright, all my right of that homestead belonging to me, which was of late in the possession of my mother, Alice Crabb, lately deceased, formerly belonging to my father Peter Wright. Itt. I give all the rest of my land to be equally divided among my other four sons, until they are made equal to my son Peter, and what remains over their being made equal to my son Peter to be divided equally among my five sons, Peter to have his choice of the said five divisions, which land above mentioned I give to my sons and their heirs forever; and it is my will, that none of my sons alienate or dispose of any of my lands given to them from their brethren, and that their brethren shall have the refusal, and if their brethren can or will buy the said land so for sale, that then it shall not be sold off unto any other; and it is my will, that if any sons die without issue, that then his or their

part of land shall go to be equally divided among the surviving brethren. Itt. I give the one half of my movables to my three daughters, and the other half to my wife, for her to dispose of as she thinks fit; only I give to my son Peter my bald-face mare, and he shall give the first colt that she brings to his brother Gideon, and I also give to my son Peter, one two-year-old heifer, and to my sons Anthony and Gideon, to each of them, a calf; and it is my will, that my wife shall have and possess this place and homestead in which I live, with what outlands she shall stand in need of during her widowhood as aforesaid. Itt. It is my will, that if one or more of my daughters happen to die before they come to age, that their portion shall return to the surviving sister or sisters. To which, as a testimony that it is my last will and testament, I set my hand and seal, this 14th day of May, 1685.

"Gideon Wright."

Notwithstanding the eight children, the homestead was forfeited.

Peter Wright's homestead was next to John Dickinson's. He may be called the founder of Oyster Bay. He was the only one of the original three purchasers who settled here; and of those whom they admitted as partners, not one continued longer than ten years, excepting his brother Anthony, who had no children; but Peter and his brother Nicholas left large families, and for many years they were, in point of ability, influence, and fortune, among the leading men of the town.

Peter's homestead included Mrs. Wright's and Mrs. De Kay's places. The part belonging to Mrs. Wright was sold by Anthony, grandson of Peter, to William, grandson of Nicholas, to whose descendants it still belongs. The other part, we believe, was sold by Anthony to Henry Townsend 3d, from whose son Absalom it descended to his great-granddaughter, Mrs. Storrs, by whom it was sold not very many years since. On this part Peter's house stood. Opposite to Peter Wright's, from the corner half way down to South street, was the homestead of Nicholas Wright. He gave the east part of it to his son Caleb, who lived there until his father's death, when he inherited the whole. It has remained in the family until a few years since, when the heirs of the late Caleb Wright sold it. The house had been many years ago abandoned by the family for one built across the street on Peter's place. In 1720, William, son of the 1st Caleb, gave to the Baptist Society forty feet square, on which the church then stood, being a part of the present lot. The trustees were Robert Feeke and Joseph Weeks. The place now owned by B. T. Underhill was given by Nicholas Wright to his son John, who married Mary, daughter of Henry Townsend. From him it descended to his daughter Rose, who left it to her son, Wright Coles; when or to whom it passed from his heirs, does not appear on the Records. There is every reason to believe that a part of the house now there was built by John Wright.

Next south, Josias Latting, son-in-law of Nicholas Wright, had a lot laid out to him, and built upon it.

South of him, Edmond, son of Nicholas, son-in-law of Peter Wright, lived. Josias Latting sold to William Buckler (or Butler; it is spelled both ways in one deed), whose son Richard sold to the heirs of Edmond Wright. From Edmond Wright 2d, both places united passed to his son-in-law, John Townsend, from whom it descended to his son Ephraim, whose heirs sold to James Prior, who sold to Jacob Colwell, from whose heirs it was bought by its present owner, J. C. Townsend. In the old deeds (not the very oldest, however) possession is said to be given by turf and twig, which we supposed to be a mere figure of speech, until we found the following entry in relation to the sale by Latting:

"Josias Latting did give Wm. Buckler possession of the house and land that he sold him in Oyster Bay, by turf and twig, according to law, in presence of the Constable and Overseers of Oyster Bay and several neighbors, the 22d of April, 1676."

Nicholas Wright left a handsome estate, which he divided among his three sons, but made no disposition in his will of his personal estate, or mention of his daughters. To supply this omission we find the following settlement:

"Whereas, our father and mother, Nicholas and Ann Wright, deceased, and left a considerable estate amongst us, their children, underwritten; and for a true settlement of said estate, and prevention of further contests

and troubles that may arise thereby, we do jointly and unanimously agree, and freely condescend to each other, that our father's will for the division and stating of his lands upon his sons, according to his will, shall stand good to them, and their heirs forever; and, forasmuch as there was no certain order in the said will, or at the death of our mother, for the division of the movable estate, as left by our deceased father and mother, we do unanimously agree, that all the said movable estate shall be for the sisters' portions, to be divided as they shall order or agree, excepting only all the neat-cattle, one great kettle, and all the iron-work belonging to the cart and plough, and our deceased father's clothes, to be divided among his three sons; and in consideration, by agreement, that our brother, Caleb Wright, is to have all the neat-cattle, as above said, excepting only two heifers, one in the possession of John, the other in the possession of Edmond, for which they, with their brother Caleb, are equally to pay all their deceased father's and mother's debts, and acquit and discharge their sisters from any trouble or demand that may arise thereby, and their heirs forever; and Caleb Wright doth engage, in consideration of the cattle, as above mentioned, to pay to his four sisters, their husbands', or their order, ten pounds current, merchant pay, according to pork, at threepence per pound, at or before the first day of November, next ensuing the date underwritten. And the movables that are to be divided amongst our sisters, is the swine, horseflesh, brass, pewter, tin, iron, wooden ware, woollen, linen, silver, gold, earthenware, or what

else be to the said estate whatsoever, only what is above excepted; and to the true performance of this our agreement, we have interchangeably subscribed our hands to each other, in Oyster Bay, June 4th, 1683.

"Caleb Wright, Josias Latting,
"John Wright, Nathaniel Coles,
"Edmund Wright, Robert Coles.

In presence of us,

"Richard Harcut, *Constable.*
"Thomas Townsend, *Recorder.*
"John Weeks, *Overseer.*"

Returning to the Main street, we find, next east to Peter Wright, the homestead of his brother Anthony, extending to South street. He had no children, and, from his recorded gifts, must have been a warm-hearted, generous man. He died September 9th, 1680, and left his whole property to his sister-in-law Alice, the widow of Peter, then the wife of Richard Crabb. She gave this homestead to her youngest daughter, Lydia, the wife of Isaac Horner, in 1684, reserving "six rods square, at the northeast corner, as already agreed upon, for a burying-place, and forty feet square, at the southeast corner, where the meeting-house now stands." There is no tradition that this spot was ever used as a grave-yard, though, for at least fifty years, it was called the Quaker Burying-Ground. In 1706, William Willis, of Hempstead, Henry Cock, and John Prior, received a deed for it from Isaac Horner, in which he says that it was deeded to him, Samuel Andrews, and Simon Cooper,

by Alice Crabb, in 1682. From Dr. P. Townsend's Note-Book, it appears that the Records of the meeting in New York, mention the "usual meeting-house of Anthonie Wright;" and as the meetings had been held at his house, it is probable that he either left the land to them, or directed Alice Crabb to give it, if he did not build the house himself. In the Records of the Westbury meeting, we find the trustees are directed, in 1709, to see about leasing the meeting-house ground and burying-ground, in Oyster Bay: so that the meeting-house had then disappeared. They were to reserve liberty for Friends to bury there. In 1720, they exchanged the forty feet square, on the corner, with Jacob Wright, for another piece, adjoining the burying-ground, forming the present lot. This was leased, in 1736, to Freelove Underhill, for twenty years. In 1749, Jacob Seaman and Nathaniel Townsend were directed to buy shingles for the meeting-house at Oyster Bay, which marks the date of the present edifice. While the lot was leased a house was built upon it, which was sold, to be removed when the term expired. There was no regular service in this meeting-house (which was very much injured during the occupation of the place by the British) until the latter part of the century, when meetings were held here and at Jericho; the latter effort resulted in the establishment of a meeting, and the building of a house; here they were, after a while, discontinued. For the rest of this home lot of Anthony Wright's (six acres), so few conveyances are on the Records, that it is not possible to trace it clearly.

North of this was the lot which was laid out to Samuel Mayo; he did not settle here, and Anthony Wright gave it to Job, his brother Peter's son, in 1677. Job built the house which now stands upon it. It was sold by his son Anthony to Rose, widow of Justice John Townsend, who sold it to her son-in-law, George Townsend, in 1712, who, in the same year, sold it to Abraham Underhill, whose son gave it to his sister Sarah, who, with her husband, James Dickinson, sold it to Jacob Townsend, who, we believe (the description is not entirely clear), sold it to Silas Weeks, when it disappears for a long time, and is then mentioned as in the possession of Joshua Hammond. In all the deeds, the "dubble house" is a very conspicuous feature.

North of this was the lot laid out to John Thomson, the blacksmith; when he left, it was sold to Joseph Ludlam. North of this again, was a lot laid out to George Dennis; when he failed, it was sold by his assignee, Thomas Townsend, to Edward White, of Setauket, in 1682. White afterwards bought Joseph Ludlam's lot, and the place is still the residence of his descendants.

Coming back to the Main street again, on the south side, from Nicholas Wright's to South street, lay the lot of the Rev. William Leverich; his son Eliezer sold it, in 1658, to Nicholas Simkins, the son-in-law of Francis Weeks. This deed is the first, from a white man, on the Records. Simkins sold it to Alice Crabb, and removed to Musketocove in 1668, when this place had on it twenty-four apple-trees in bearing, and one pear-tree. Alice Crabb gave it to her son, Adam Wright, who

moved to Cedar Swamp, and sold to Nathaniel Coles, Sen., who, in 1691, gave it to his son Nathaniel, then lately married to Rose, daughter of John Wright. From him it descended to his son, Wright Coles, who (or his heirs) sold to Samuel Townsend, whose heirs sold to Dr. Seely, from whom it passed to the present owners.

South of this, the homestead was owned by Benjamin Hubbard, who built the houses formerly belonging to the Chadeaynes. In 1669 he sold to Josias Latting, who not many years after removing to Matinecock, where he had bought land of the Indians, sold it to Edmond Wright. From his son Edmond, it descended to his son-in-law, John Townsend, who sold to Absalom Townsend, from whom it was bought by William Butler, who sold it, or at least the south part of it, to Tristrim Dodge, who gave it to his daughters. This place, at that time, extended through to the back street, as the one running by B. T. Underhill's was called. Upon this back street, somewhere, probably on the property of Edmond Wright (as his daughter, the wife of John Townsend, was a leading member), was the New-Light Meeting-House. It was taken down by the British, and set up in another place. The next house in South street was built by Richard Holbrook, the first erected in the town, and sold by him to Jonas Halstead. Holbrook removed to Connecticut. His will is so quaint, and shows so much of the simplicity of their manners and ideas, that we shall copy it, though he was a resident of the town but a short time.

"This is the last will and testament of Richard Holbrook, of Milford, in the Colony of Connecticut, March 29th, 1670.

"I, Richard Holbrook, being in perfect memory, though weak in body, do here make my last will and testament, as followeth. Item. I give unto my son, Abel Holbrook, my loom, and all the tackling belonging to it, and he shall work with them for his mother, and maintain them, and these shall be his when he is married. Item. My will is, that my son, Abel Holbrook, shall live with his mother, and be obedient unto her, and work for her, until he is married, and at the day of his marriage, he shall receive the loom, with all the gears. Item. I give unto my son Abel, above mentioned, my gray mare. Item. I give unto my son, Israel Holbrook, my yearling mare colt. Item. I give unto my son, Peletiah Holbrook, the first colt that either of these two mares has, and they shall bring it up for him. Item. I give unto my three daughters which are unmarried, Mary Holbrook, Hannah Holbrook, and Patience Holbrook, those of them which marry while their mother lives: Item. My will is, that their mother shall endeavor to give them ten pounds a piece, so soon as she can, after the day of their marriage; but if they live with her until the day of her death: Item. My will is, that after their mother is dead, the household goods and cattle shall be equally divided between these my three daughters, above mentioned, Mary Holbrook, Hannah Holbrook, and Patience Holbrook.

"Item. My will is, that if my beloved wife, Agnes

Holbrook, should marry again, then what estate is then, in household goods and cattle, shall then be equally divided between her and her daughters, above mentioned, Mary Holbrook, Hannah Holbrook, and Patience Holbrook. Item. My will is, that the day of my beloved wife's decease, or marrying again, which of them shall first happen, my house and land shall then be equally divided between my three sons, above mentioned, Abel Holbrook, Israel Holbrook, Pelatiah Holbrook.

"Item. My will is, that if any of these my three sons, above mentioned, Abel Holbrook, Israel Holbrook, and Pelatiah Holbrook, doth prove perverse or disobedient unto their mother's lawful commands, or will not live with her, then they shall have no right unto my house and land, above mentioned; then those of them that are obedient shall have it. Item. Unto my son, John Holbrook, I give one shilling. I give unto my son, Daniel Holbrook, one shilling. Item. I give unto my daughter Abigail one shilling, she having received her portion already. Item. My will is, that my beloved wife, Agnes Holbrook, shall be my whole and sole executrix. In witness hereof, I do hereunto set my hand, and seal.

"Richard Holbrook."

In 1661, Jonas Halstead sold the place to John Townsend, who died in 1668. His widow Elizabeth, in 1670, built the house, which was pulled down a few years ago, by Daniel Cock. Her son George inherited it from her, and, in 1742, his son Samuel sold it to John Youngs, reserving the burying-ground, six rods from

east to west, four from north to south, to his family and relations, forever. Youngs sold to Absalom Townsend, who sold again to William Butler, from whom it was bought by Samuel Townsend, of the Jericho family; his heirs sold it to Ephraim Townsend, from whose heirs it was bought by Daniel Cock, who sold to the Rev. Aaron Jackson, the present owner.

South of this, Thomas Armitage built. In 1663, he sold it to John Townsend, from whom it descended to his son Daniel. The three acres and three-quarters, forming the point, was also bought by John Townsend, and fell to his son James, who built upon it, but, removing to Cedar Swamp, sold it to David Underhill, from whom it was bought by Daniel Townsend, and, together with Daniel's homestead, descended to his son Robert, who exchanged the whole with Caleb Coles, for land at Duck Pond. At the head of South street, on the corner of Pine Hollow Road, Isaac Doughty had a homestead, which he sold to John Weeks. East of this was a house owned by David Underhill, which he sold to Samuel Maccoon.

On the east side of South street, on the corner, was the homestead of Joseph, son of Francis Weeks. He married a daughter of Henry Rudick, and when his father-in-law died, went to Matinecock, upon his wife's property, and gave this place to his son Henry, who sold to his brother John; which is its last appearance on the Records.

North of this was the home lot of John, son of Francis Weeks; he left it to his only son, Nathaniel, who

dying without issue, it passed to his sisters, Phebe, wife of Richard Youngs, and Susannah, wife of Richard Townsend. The latter sold to her sister, who sold again to her nephew, John Townsend, from whom it was bought by George Weeks; which is the last we hear of it. Next to this was a vacant lot, belonging to John Townsend 2d, who sold it to John Rogers.

Then came the house of Samuel, son of Francis Weeks. He also married a daughter of Henry Rudick, and removed to Matinecock, but this place continued in his name, nor is there any transfer of it recorded.

Next, north, was the house and lot of John Underhill, Jr. (his father, Captain John Underhill, had a house in the Town Spot before he settled at Matinecock, which he sold to George Dennis, but there is nothing in the deed by which it can be identified). He sold it, in 1668, to Thomas Townsend. North of this was a half-lot and house, belonging to the wife of John Rogers. The last house belonged to John Townsend 2d, who, in 1668, sold to his brother Thomas, who, in 1673, exchanged the south half of the lot, which he bought of Underhill with the house, for the half-lot of Mrs. Rogers, that lay between his two lots, reserving the use of the house until he finished a new one, which new one was that lately owned by Mrs. Summers. This house and double lot he gave to his son, Justice John Townsend, and bought again the house and lot he had sold to Mrs. Rogers, and the vacant lot sold by his brother to her husband, and gave them to his daughter Freelove, wife of Thomas

Jones, who, in 1712, sold to George Townsend; after which there are no conveyances for either place.

North of Thomas Townsend's lot, the swamp, opposite to Nicholas Simkins's home lot, belonged to him, and was transferred with it two or three times. The north end of it belonged to Isaac Horner, who sold it to John Dowsbury, from whom it passed to John Newman, who had already bought from John Robinson, the original owner, the homestead east of the swamp, extending to the place now owned by Mrs. Miner. The brook running out of the swamp, and the bridge over it, were then (1680), and for many years after, called Anthony's Brook and Anthony's Bridge, after Anthony Wright. It is a pity that a name commemorative of one of the very first settlers, and a particularly estimable man, should have been dropped, to be replaced by nothing. John Newman was Town-Clerk for eleven years; the entries he made are a most honorable monument to his memory. He died in 1697, intestate, without heirs. In 1700, Edward White seems to have the property in charge. Nothing more is heard of it until 1733, when the Hon. Captain Charles Boyles petitions the Provincial authorities to be allowed to take up the land of John Newman, who, besides this place, owned quite a large estate in different parts of the town. This petition was granted, upon certain conditions. The honorable Captain probably lent his name and influence, for a consideration, to William Moyles, an Englishman, who lived here and knew the situation of the property; he sold this place, by power of attorney from Boyles, to

Samuel Shaw, and bought, or by some means came into possession of, part of the property himself. Among the papers of William M. Hewlett was a receipt to Moyles, for papers and accounts from Thomas and Walter Buchanan, as agents for Boyles's heir, the Earl of Glasgow. A great stir was made, about thirty years ago, among the owners of this Newman property, by a report that Boyles's heirs were coming to claim it.

East of Newman's place was the homestead of Samuel Andrews, son-in-law of Peter Wright, consisting of seventeen acres. In 1683 he removed to New Jersey, and sold this place to Joseph Ludlam for £100. In 1694, Ludlam sold it to Mill John Townsend, and his daughter Zeruiah, married to Dr. Matthew Parish, inherited it. From her it descended to her son John, who lived upon it to a very advanced age; after his death the house fell down, and his heirs sold it to Thomas Kilner, from whom it was bought by Ezra Miner, whose heirs now own it. In 1669, a highway was ordered to be opened east of Andrews's place; it was only carried a short distance, and some years afterward it was ordered to be opened through, to Nan's Hollow, "near the wolf-pit of Nathaniel Coles, Jr., and Daniel Townsend." There is another wolf-pit mentioned, in what is now Fleet's woods. A hollow beside the bars on the Swamp Road, south of Wm. T. McCoun's gate, was pointed out to J. C. Townsend by his father as a wolf-pit. There was a reward of ten shillings for killing a wolf, to be paid by the Town-Clerk, upon the presentation of the head or claws. The County also paid a bounty on their

heads, and, when that was withdrawn, the Town offered twenty shillings. From the following notice, it would appear that a good many must have been killed.

"Aug. 1st, 1661. It is ordered by the Town, that every townsman shall bring in all their dues, for wolf-killing, against the next Town meeting, at Anthony Wright's. It being three shillings a man."

On the north side of the Main street, from South street to Ship Point Lane, there were no houses for a great many years. In 1677, a large part of it was set apart for a perpetual common, and as a site for a Town-House, which was to be twenty-four feet by twenty. It was in use in 1684, and probably before; but, for many years after, Town Meetings were frequently held at private houses. When and how this property came into the possession of the Episcopal Church, does not appear. The church was used as a Town-House, nearly, if not quite, up to the Revolution.

The first mention of Harry Wilson's house is in 1752; the lot had been sold in 1739, but there is nothing said of a house. In 1757, there was still a highway between the house and the churchyard. There was no house on the corner of the Main and South streets, as late as 1753. East of the churchyard, and adjoining it, Thomas Townsend, at a very early date, sold an acre to Morris Shadbolt, but there is no proof that it was built upon for many years.

In 1667, a half acre was laid out to Nathaniel Coles. He built very near, if not exactly, where the present Ship Point house stands. After his death, his son Barak

sold it to his brother-in-law, Samuel Maccoon. East of this, and nearer to the point, John Richbill had a house, which he sold to Matthias Harvey. Robert Coles, son of Nathaniel, had a homestead on the Ship Point place, probably on the east corner of the Main street. On the south side of the Main street, east of Coon's Lane, was Richard Crabb's homestead; he left it to his step-daughter, Lydia Wright; she, with her husband, Isaac Horner, removing to New Jersey, sold it to Eliezer Darby, and he to John Rogers, from whom it was bought by Thomas Weeks, who already had a homestead adjoining it on the east. The next time it appears, the two together are sold by Edward White to Samuel Maccoon, in 1700; after which it is found no more on the Records. But it was the homestead of Augustine Weeks, by whose son Refine it was sold to Walter Franklin, who sold it to Albert Albertson, the trustees of whose great-granddaughter sold it, not long since, to John and Joseph Wright. All the deeds for this place on the Town Records bound it on the east "by ye Town's burying-ground," and when the highway was ordered between Francis and Thomas Weeks (now Latten's and Irvin's) it was to go through the Town's burying-ground, which was reserved for that purpose forever. It is probable that few, if any, were buried there but those who owned the place, as almost every place had a graveyard on it.

East of this was the place of Francis Weeks, who gave it to his youngest son, Daniel, from whom it descended to his sons Solomon and Abraham, and was divided between them by their guardian, Henry Weeks. There are no

traces of it after this. On the east of his homestead, Francis Weeks gave two acres to his son James, on which he built, and he received another acre from the Town, on the east. He gave it to his youngest son, Edmond, which is all we know about it.

The next place was laid out to Samuel Furman. It passed through the hands of many persons, whose names are now entirely unknown here; it then disappears. It is a part of Mrs. Irving's place.

Then came a place which was one of the first built upon, by Walter Salter, and was called Salter's Lot for a great many years. It contained six acres, and ran so far east as to take in William Tomlin's place. It was sold by Salter to Matthew Prior, and by him to Henry Townsend, Sen., who gave it, in 1673, to his daughter, Susannah Furman, who sold it many years afterwards to a man named Tillot, from whom there is no conveyance. It was bounded on the east by a road which ran along the west side of the swamp, and, turning to the west, came out in the road that was then called the highway to the plains.

On the east side of this road, was the homestead of Richard Harcurt, who left it to his son Benjamin, in a will which we annex. In this and other cases of ridiculously small legacies, neither the poverty of the testator nor his indifference to the legatee is to be inferred; it is simply their way of testifying their remembrance of a child whose portion has already been paid.

"In the name of God, Amen. I, Richard Harcurt, of

Oyster Bay, in Queen's County, somewhat sick of body, but perfect and whole in memory and understanding, praised be God for it! do now make my last will and testament, as followeth: *Imprimis.* I bequeath my soul into the hands of God that gave it, and my body to be buried, with Christian burial, at the discretion of my executrix. Itt. I give and bequeath unto my oldest son, Daniel Harcurt, my lot of upland, lying on the West Neck, at the south of Oyster Bay, aforesaid; meaning my southernmost lot of the first south division of the said neck, containing about six acres, be it more or less; the bounds, limits, and numbers of the lot, is plainly demonstrated in the record thereof. And also I do give the said Daniel the one-half of my lot, or share of meadow, lying on West Neck aforesaid; this I give to my son Daniel, beside what I formerly gave him, for his portion, before he was married, of which the Records of Oyster Bay plainly showeth; and the lands I have now given to my son Daniel, shall be, and remain to him and his heirs forever. Itt. I give to my wife Miriam, the use of three acres of land in my new field, of three acres in my old field, and one-half of my pasture lot, at home, and one-third part of my dwelling-house and orchard, during her life; but if she marries again, she shall no longer have any right nor claim to any of this that I have given her, but to leave it to him or them, as I shall hereafter dispose of it. I also do give my said wife the one-third part of all my movable estate, both without doors and within, of household stuff, cattle, under what denomination soever it goeth, and for her to dis-

pose of as she see cause. My will is, that my wife shall have the use of my dwelling-house, but if she see cause to live by herself, then she shall have the brick house to live in during her widowhood, any words before written to the contrary notwithstanding; and she shall have her choice of the feather beds, and one other bed, and her choice of the pots. Itt. I give to my grandson, Daniel Ketchum, twenty acres of land, to be taken in the common of the Old Purchase of Oyster Bay, to him and to his heirs forever.

"Itt. I give to my son Benjamin, all my land and commonage, and meadow, and Plain lands, which I have on Oyster Bay, and bounds that I have not disposed of, and the lands and house-room I have given to my wife, to be his after the expiration of her life or widowhood, to him my said son Benjamin, during his life, and after his decease, to the heirs of his body forever—always provided, that my wife must have liberty during her widowhood, to mow grass on my meadow, or plain lands, during her widowhood. Itt. I do give to all my seven living daughters all my movable estate, which I have not given already to my wife, to be equally divided between them; only my wife, if she see cause, to have the white mare, but to go as part of her thirds. Itt. I make my trusty and well-beloved friends, John Townsend, at Mill, Thomas Willets, and John Newman, overseers to this my will, to be helpful to my executrix, and to divide my estate between my wife and children, as I have now given it, according to the best of their understanding, that is to say, when all debts, and funeral and other

charges, are discharged. Itt. I make my loving wife my sole executrix of this my will, and all my estate, and to pay all my debts, and funeral and other charges, out of my movable estate, and this I declare to be my last will and testament, to stand, revoking all other wills formerly made. Witness my hand and seal, this 25th day of April, *Anno Dei* 1696.

"Richard Harcurt.

"May 2d, 1696.—It having pleased God to keep and preserve me in my perfect memory and understanding, I do now, in addition to my within written will, and to stand for my will, is that my son Benjamin shall have my cart and plough, with the instruments that belong to it, and my oxen and chain, and one axe for the use of him and my wife, as long as she is a widow. Also I do give to Hannah Townsend, the daughter of my daughter Susannah, deceased, one coverlet, meaning that which my wife hath lent her, and to my said daughter Susannah's son James, and to her other son and two daughters, I give between them, five shillings. This I declare to be an addition to my within written will and testament. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, to the confirmation of my within written will, and this to be one entire will, the day and year first above written. Richard Harcurt."

The fear of his wife marrying again, that evidently haunts him, taken in connection with the fact that she was a widow with several children when he married her,

twenty years before, shows what perilous times those were for widows. Benjamin Harcurt and his son sold the place, with every thing within doors and without, to Micajah Townsend, who sold it to Joseph Simson, from whom there is no conveyance for it. The next place, on the corner, was the homestead of Dr. Robert Cooper, son of Simon. After his death, it belonged to his wife Marcy, with a piece on the north side of the road, called Marcy Cooper's garden, as well as the place now belonging to the heirs of Dr. De Kay. The homestead she left to her grandsons, Samuel and Daniel, sons of Samuel Townsend. Daniel died young, and Samuel, in the latter part of his life, exchanged it with his nephew Joseph, for a place at Yellow Coats. Joseph's descendants still occupy the homestead. The De Kay place she sold to Jonas Green, in 1729, when there was no house upon it; he probably built the house, and, in 1745, sold it to Jacob Weeks, whose great-grandchildren sold it to Dr. De Kay. The land on the north side of the road, now belonging to James Townsend's heirs, belonged to Richard Harcurt (except the southeast corner, Marcy Cooper's garden), and was sold with the Harcurt place, on the other side of the road, except a half acre on the southwest, on which there was a house, which Richard Harcurt gave to his son-in-law, Thomas Youngs, who gave it to Thomas Wood, in payment for building him a house; he sold it to William Bradford: after that the owners are innumerable, until finally Esther Townsend sold it back to the Harcurts, the half-acre grown to an acre, and it disappears.

West of the road to the water was the homestead of Simon Cooper, chirurgeon; he owned as far west as the Ship Point place; his house was the one which Daniel Parish lived in. There are no conveyances for this part of the place recorded. The western part, now belonging to the Albertson place, was sold to Edward White by Simon Cooper; at his death, it fell to his son Robert, who must have built the house on the hill. It next appears in the possession of his sister, Mary White, who gave it to Robert, Edward, and Harvey, sons of her sister, Abigail Colwell. After the death of Edward Colwell, who lived there, Augustine Weeks gave the southwest corner, ten rods from east to west, eight from north to south, to his son Refine, who built the house now there, and sold it, with the property on the other side of the road, to Walter Franklin, and he to Albert Albertson, whose great-granddaughter now owns it.

Within the memory of middle-aged people, there were several houses still standing, which were built by the first settlers. Those in which Daniel and John Parish lived, built by Simon Cooper and Samuel Andrews, at a very early period; the one on the hill, opposite the Episcopal Church, built by John Robinson, before 1680; that lately belonging to Hamilton, built about 1677, by Job Wright; the one formerly owned by the Chadeaynes, built probably by Benjamin Hubbard, before 1669; that on the place owned by Rev. Mr. Jackson, built by the widow Elizabeth Townsend, 1670; the Summers house, built by Thomas Townsend, 1673; the one south of that, formerly

belonging to the Weeks family, and a part of that belonging to B. T. Underhill, which was built by John Wright, were all of this class : those built by Job Wright and Thomas Townsend and John Wright, are all that remain.

Genealogy.

CHAPTER I.

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JOHN, HENRY, AND RICHARD TOWNSEND.

These brothers came from Norwich, County of Norfolk, England. The time of their emigration cannot be precisely fixed. It was, however, several years before 1645, as in that year Governor Kieft gave a patent for the Town of Flushing to John Townsend and others; and from a petition of his widow to Governor Andros, we learn that he had previously taken up land near New York, and "peaceably enjoyed the same divers years," but alarms from the Indians, and other difficulties which she does not specify, induced him to leave his improvements, and commence the settlement of Flushing, where he was joined by Henry. The Townsends were Friends, and were soon at variance with the Dutch authorities: the differences between them, however, seem to have had their origin quite as much in politics as religion; for John Townsend is named by Governor Stuyvesant among the principal persons of Flushing "who resist

the Dutch mode of choosing Sheriff, pretending against the adopted course in the Fatherland, and who refuse to contribute their share to the maintenance of Christian, pious, reformed ministers." He, with the others named, was summoned to appear, 23d of January, 1648, before the Director-General, Governor, and Council, at Fort Amsterdam. If they decline, they are to be apprehended and prosecuted by the Attorney-General. Thompson, in his History of Long Island, says that on account of these difficulties with the Government, the Townsends left Flushing and went to Warwick, R. I., where they were, all three, members of the Provincial Assembly, beside holding municipal offices. In 1656, they determined once more to attempt a settlement on Long Island, and in that year obtained, with others, the patent of Jamaica, then called Rusdorp. Very soon, however, the old religious difficulties beset them. Henry seems to have made himself particularly obnoxious, although, as already shown, John neither concealed nor compromised his opinions. In 1657, Henry was sentenced to pay £8 Flanders, or to leave the Province in six weeks, for having "called together conventicles." The people of Flushing held a meeting and addressed a remonstrance to the Governor, written by the Town-Clerk, and signed, among others, by Tobias Feake, Sheriff, and Noble and Farrington, two of the magistrates, and presented by the Sheriff. He, the Clerk, and magistrates were arrested, and John Townsend also, upon a charge of having induced the magistrates to sign, and he was ordered to find bail in £12, to appear

when summoned. Henry was brought before the Council, January 15th, 1658, and condemned to pay £100 Flanders, and to remain arrested until it be paid. We are not told how this was settled; but he was in Oyster Bay during this year, as his signature as witness to an Indian deed proves. In January, 1661, two of the magistrates furnished the names of twelve persons, including John and Henry Townsend and their wives, "who countenanced the Quakers." Henry was again imprisoned, but there is no indication that John was molested. This account of the Townsends, before they came to Oyster Bay, is taken entirely from Thompson's History of Long Island. He probably received it from Dr. Peter Townsend, whose Note-Book shows conclusively the reason why Henry was so much more involved in these difficulties than John, who was also a Friend, attended "conventicles," and "countenanced Quakers," but Henry went from door to door, urging people to attend their meetings, which gave great umbrage, especially as regarded young people and children.

From the date of the Mill grant, September 16, 1661, the history of the brothers and their descendants has been taken from the Town Records, and from family papers, and for that we are responsible. Where we have only inferences and conjectures to give, we offer them as such.

CHAPTER II.

JOHN TOWNSEND

Settled in Oyster Bay, between the middle of January and the 16th of September, 1661. As he was living in Jamaica at the first date, and his name being upon the Mill grant, he must have been admitted as a Townsman in Oyster Bay before the last. There is an entry upon the Records, that he bought his house in South street in February, 1661, but the deed, in the possession of J. C. Townsend, is dated October. It is as follows:

"Oyster Bay, this 5th day of the 10th month, 1661. Be it known unto all by these presents, that I, Jonas Halstead, of Oyster Bay, on Long Island, in America, do hereby acknowledge that I have sold and delivered all my right, title, and interest of all the housing and land that is here named, as follows:—Richard Holbrook's house or houses, built by him or me, and house lot, and two shares of meadow on the north side of the Town, and a share of meadow at Matinecock, and one right of meadow at the south, and twenty shares of the Great Plains, that is on the east side of the footpath, near the wood edge, and also all the rights, appurtenances, and privileges that do fall to, or any way belong to the aforesaid house lot, within the Town

bounds. I say, I have sold and delivered it all in quiet possession, for full satisfaction already received, unto John Townsend, of the said Town and place, and do also hereby engage to make good the sale of the aforesaid house and lands, against any person or persons that may any wise lay claim thereto; and I do hereby further acknowledge that I have fully sold all the said houses and lands from me, my heirs and assigns, unto him, his heirs and assigns forever, to enjoy without molestation by me, or any from me, as witness my hand, this day and year first above written. JONAS HALSTEAD."

John Townsend must have been quite advanced in years when he settled in Oyster Bay; having led a most active and laborious life since his emigration, he had made three different homes in the wilderness, if not four, before he found a final resting-place. His widow, in the petition to Governor Andros, above mentioned, says:

"Your Honor's petitioner's husband, many years last past, was seized of a certain parcel of land, containing eight acres by estimation, lying and being at the Fresh Water (Collect), New York, then called New Amsterdam, where your Honor's petitioner's husband did build, and make large improvements, and peaceably enjoyed the same divers years in the time of great calamity, being daily alarmed by the Indians, and other difficulties attending upon your Honor's petitioner's husband, and afterwards got no better reward than such discouragements as caused your Honor's petitioner's

husband to leave his good improvements. However, your Honor's petitioner is well contented at present, hoping her husband and others, by their adventures, and running through many fiery trials of affliction, has been in some measure instrumental to bring a chaos into goodly fields, buildings, and gardens; and instead of your Honor's petitioner's husband reaping the fruits of their labors, but on the contrary, was forced to hew a small fortune out of the thick wood, with his own hands, for himself, wife, and children."

Her object in this petition was to reclaim the eight acres taken up by her husband; but as it had been thirty years since he left it, never having had any title but possession, it is not surprising that her petition was not granted. Perhaps she might have fared better if it had been written in the clear, condensed style of her son Thomas, instead of the clumsy, involved, tedious, and inelegant document elaborated by George Cooke. As we have seen, after leaving this home, he, with others, settled Flushing in 1645, and Jamaica in 1656. At his age, and after such toils and privations as he had undergone, it is not surprising that he should have retired from all public concerns, and have left the burden of organizing and managing the new settlement to younger men, especially as he had two sons of an age to take his place. The office of Overseer is the only one he is known to have held here. In 1663, he bought from Thomas Armitage the homestead next south of his own, and his name frequently appears on the Records as a purchaser of property. His wife was Elizabeth Mont-

gomery. He died in 1668, and was buried on his own place, probably the first person laid in the graveyard on Fort Hill.

As he died intestate, his widow, according to a custom prevailing here, divided his estate, with the advice and consent of her older sons, and her husband's brothers. We give this document below. The solicitude which she shows for the comfort and welfare of "the lads," as she calls her two younger sons, is very touching.

"These presents declare unto whom it may any wise concern, that I, Elizabeth Townsend, widow of the late deceased John Townsend, in Oyster Bay, in the north riding, on Long Island, because my said husband deceased without any will, I herein, with the advice of my husband's two brothers, Henry and Richard Townsend, and with the advice and consent of my two eldest sons, John and Thomas Townsend, all of Oyster Bay, above said, have together parted my said husband's estate amongst his six younger children, for their portions, instead of a will, by which will, each of the children, namely, James, Rose, Anne, Sarah, George, and Daniel may know what shall be, and what to claim for their portion of their father's estate, and this to stand firm and unalterable by me, or any through, or by me, but to remain for a settlement of peace between me and my children, which is as followeth. Imp. 1st. Unto my son James, I give for his portion out of the estate, in present possession, in lands,

beside cattle and horses he have in hand already, first, three acres of land and three-quarters, lying on the south side of that was old Armitage's lot, in Oyster Bay, lying or adjoining to the highway on the eastward and western sides, with commoning and common privileges to it, of wood, land, timber, as other such lots have; and he is to have the land upon part of his common right, that his father did improve, on the east side of Matinecock Creek, joining on the south of his uncle Henry's land, and two shares of meadow lying on the west side of the Creek, or Beaver Swamp, and one share of meadow on the east of the said Creek; and he is to have the land his father fenced and improved on the west side of the Mill River Swamp, with the share of the swamp joining to the east side of it; and he is to have six acres of Plains, and a quarter of a share of meadow at the south, and so much of the south side of the swamp at the rear of my house as proves to be mine, of which swamp Josias Latting hath a part. To my daughters I do engage to give to each of them thirty pounds apiece, for their portion, and to my eldest daughter Elizabeth, although not above mentioned, yet she is to have, with what she hath already received, thirty pounds, all at such pay as passes between man and man, after the rate of Indian corn at three shillings a bushel, and wheat at five. 2d. To the said Elizabeth, or her husband, Gideon Wright, towards her portion, I give, with what her father had before given her already, first, two cows, ten pounds; a young horse, five pounds; a bed and furniture, ten pounds; two sheep, one pound;

one kettle, one pound; in all twenty-seven pounds; and Gideon, her husband, is to have three pounds more; and that will be thirty pounds in all. 3d. To my daughter Rose I give half a share of meadow at the south, with two cows and two calves she hath already received, and commoning in Oyster Bay, with twenty-six acres of land, and three pounds in Richard Townsend's hands, and a yearling mare colt, it all being called by us at thirty pounds. 4th. To my two youngest daughters, Anne and Sarah, their portions are to be thirty pounds apiece, out of the stock or in lands, as they may desire, if their mother decease before their portions are paid; but if they be disposed of in marriage while I remain a widow, I have liberty to pay to each of them their portion in cattle or land, as I see they have most need and I able to do it, or part one, part of the other. 5th. It is my will, and I do fully agree that my two youngest sons, George and Daniel, shall have these two homesteads I now possess, with the privileges belonging to them, after my decease, but they are to be mine and for my use, to possess and enjoy for my use and comfort, during my life, and at my decease to be theirs as above said, with privileges as follows: to each party is nominated his particular interest. 6thly. To my son George I give for his portion as above said, being the eldest, the house and house lot that I now possess, and orchard which then shall be on it, and two shares of meadow that lie in the Town of Oyster Bay, which was bought with the lot, and six acres of Plains, with commoning and common privileges, in the First Purchase of the

Town. 7th. To my youngest son, Daniel, above mentioned, after my decease above said, is to have the other lot, or that part of land lying between his brother James's lot and his brother George's lot. It was bought of old Armitage. I say, he is to have it, with the privileges belonging to it; namely, two shares of meadow lying on the north side of the town, which was bought with the lot of the said Thomas Armitage, and six acres of Plains, and twelve acres of land and common privileges. And I do by this will and appoint, that if I decease before these my two youngest sons be of age, that two of their eldest brothers take them and bring them up, and to have the use of the boys' land and what other goods and chattels fall to them. The goods and chattels are to be priced when they receive it, and delivered back to the said boys the same price or value again, when they go from their brothers, whether they be of age or not; for I do appoint my brother, Henry Townsend, their uncle, to have the oversight of them if he outlive me, and to remove one or both to the rest of their brothers or sisters, with the lands and estates to make use of toward the bringing up of the said lads; but when they go away to have their whole principal returned to or with them, but not to remove them without their complaint to him on good grounds, for the said removal, of hard usage. And I do by this will and appoint that, at my decease, unalterable by me, or any through or by me, all my estate undisposed of, as goods, household stuff, and cattle, are all to be equally divided amongst all my living children; and I further order and

appoint that, if any one or more of my said sons or daughters die under age, undisposed of in marriage, the deceased's lands and estates are all to be divided equally amongst all my living sons and daughters; but it is still to be understood that whoever have the bringing up of the two young lads, and the use of their estate towards their maintenance, their lands and houses is with fences to be delivered up in good repair as when they received it, and the property of lands and houses, and orchard, is not to be altered to or from either of the said lads, although the property of other goods or chattels may be altered upon just and honest terms. And further, it is agreed that my eldest son, John, is to have such land at Hog Island, at my decease, or at south, if I leave any undisposed of, to my youngest daughters, Anne and Sarah, above said. But a lot on Hog Island, of the third division, number ten, my husband gave my son Thomas. Unto all the promises and engagements above mentioned, I do hereby engage to perform, under my hand and seal, the twenty-third year of the reign of Charles the Second, King of England, and the tenth day of the fifth month, 1671. Before signing was entered in the fifth and eighth lines, that I now

as witness my hand and seal,

"Elizabeth Townsend.

"In the presence of us,

"Moses Furman,

"Benjamin Hubbard.

"I do own my brother Richard did consent to the

substance of which is above mentioned, and with my advice also, as witness my hand.

"Henry Townsend.

"And we consent to the above said.

"John Townsend, James Townsend,
"Thomas Townsend, Gideon Wright."

Richard Townsend must have died after this settlement was agreed upon, but before its execution.

The thirty pounds allotted to each of the daughters seems, to our ideas, a very small fortune, while the Fort Neck estate, given by Thomas Townsend to his daughter Freelove, we regard as a munificent portion; but we must remember that thirty pounds would have bought two such estates. John's daughters, however, received nearer one hundred pounds than thirty, for Rose sold her land for thirty pounds, the cattle and money allotted to her were worth at least twenty, and her dividend, at her mother's death, must have been very considerable; for the widow Townsend appears very often on the Records, buying land and receiving allotments, and was evidently a woman of great energy and ability. So that, no doubt, her daughters were among the greatest fortunes of their day, as it was not expected that any girls should share equally with their brothers.

Rose married John Wicks, or Weeks, of Warwick, Rhode Island, the brother of Richard Townsend's second wife. After his death she married Samuel Hayden. Nothing is known of her family. Of Anne and Sarah, nothing whatever is known.

CHAPTER III.

JOHN, SON OF JOHN 1ST.

During his father's life, John 2d lived in South street, on the east side, north of the Summers house. In 1698 the name of his wife was Phebe, but there is reason to believe that his first wife, the mother of his children, was Susannah, daughter of Richard Harcurt, or, properly, Harcourt. Shortly after his father's death, in 1668, he sold his house to his brother Thomas, and bought land of Robert Williams, at Lusum (now Jericho), of which he must have been one of the first six settlers. After living at Lusum some time, he removed to West Neck, where, as well as at Unkoway Neck, he made many purchases of land. It is probable that he returned to Lusum before his death, the date of which is not known; but he was still living in 1715, when he was not less than eighty years old. He is called, on the Records, John Townsend, Senior.—Issue, Solomon, James, Thomas, Nathaniel, and probably three daughters. Of the daughters nothing is known, unless it be that the name of one of them was Hannah. Nathaniel died young. Of Thomas we only know that he was born at Lusum, in 1680, and that his uncle Thomas gave him land in 1685. He no doubt died young.

SOLOMON, SON OF JOHN 2D, OF JERICHO,

Removed to Rhode Island with his family in 1707. He received from his father the homestead, at Jericho, which his son Job, the only one of his children known, sold to Nathaniel Townsend. This homestead we believe to be the place afterwards owned by Elias Hicks, but the house was on the east side of the road. Dr. Peter Townsend mentions Solomon and Christopher Townsend, of Rhode Island, who were in Oyster Bay during his grandfather's life, and claimed relationship with him. The Record of the meeting also mentions Christopher visiting friends. They were probably grandsons of this Solomon.

JAMES, SON OF JOHN 2D, OF JERICHO,

Is the ancestor of those known in the family as Jericho Townsends. He married Audrey, daughter of Colonel Job Almy, of Rhode Island. The date of his marriage is not known, but his oldest son was born in 1692. Of his wife, nothing but her very pretty name is known; but Susannah Almy, her sister, was the author of some verses (preserved by Dr. P. Townsend), from which we shall give an extract, as their date gives them an interest besides that which they possess for her sister's descendants.

"A CONTENTED MIND.

"If thy estate be took from thee,
And thou art brought to poverty,
By crosses or afflictions strong,—
Murmur nor grieve at any wrong.
It's God that hath a hand o'er all,
To raise thee up, or let thee fall.
Perhaps the Lord will try to find
If thou hast a contented mind.

"If thou art rich, then be content;
Forget not thou from whom 'twas sent;
If God hath given thee treasure's store,
Think thou art steward for the poor.
One day be sure thou must appear,
To give account what thou didst here,
And then these lines you true shall find—
No wealth like a contented mind.

"If honor or preferment great
Shall raise thee up on Justice's seat;
Or if by place or dignity,
A judge of causes thou mayest be,—
Think Heaven's court of justice high
Will on thine actions cast an eye.
This mighty Judge, be sure, can find
The secrets of your heart and mind.

"If thou God's laws do break, be sure,
Or by oppression wrong the poor,
Or let the mighty bear the sway,
To turn the poor man's cause away,—
He that doth this, be sure, shall find
Afflictions, with a troubled mind.

"If, otherwise, thou chance to be
A judge of right and equity,
And wilt the poor man's cause defend
As well as his who means doth spend,
And right the poor and fatherless,
Likewise the widow in distress,—
Reward from heaven he sure shall find;
On earth, a sweet, contented mind."

James was the Deputy Surveyor-General of the Province, and after the death of Justice John Townsend and the 3d Henry, he and his cousin George, of Oyster Bay, were elected Town Surveyors. His was the first appointment to the office of a person not a resident of the village of Oyster Bay, and was made in 1710 or '11. He continued to be re-elected until his death. He was appointed, with George Townsend, to conduct the defence of the Town in a suit brought by Nicholas Lang and others, to recover a large part of the original Purchase, under the title of William Leverich. Dr. Peter Townsend says that the family tradition represents him as a man of strong mind and amiable temper. He was certainly a prominent and influential man in the town, and must, from the number of surveys he made, have been very active. He died between 1729 and 1733. We think he lived upon the place now belonging to Samuel Underhill, at Jericho, and was buried there.—Issue, Mary, Deborah, Jacob, Nathaniel.

MARY married ——— Jackson.—Issue, Thomas, Charles, Almy.

Almy married Richard, son of Job Hubbs. Nothing

more is known of her family.—*From Dr. Townsend's Notes.*

DEBORAH married Abraham Seaman. — Issue, James, Phebe.

PHEBE married —— Casey, and lived in New York. There was another daughter, name not known, married to Captain Robinson.—*From Dr. Townsend's Notes.*

JACOB was born 1692, and married Phebe, daughter of Captain John Seaman, of Jerusalem. Dr. P. Townsend says his aunts described him as a tall man, grave to despondency. He lived at the place now owned by William Jackson, at Jericho. The old house stood very near the turnpike. He died December 30, 1742, and was buried in the family burying-ground, on the place of Samuel Underhill, where his tombstone still stands. His wife died of the small-pox, after a long and painful illness, April 14, 1774, aged seventy-five.—Issue, Samuel, Jacob, Benjamin, James, Almy. The last died young, unmarried.

SAMUEL was born in 1717, and married Sarah, daughter of Wm. Stoddard, then of Oyster Bay, but formerly of Rhode Island. In 1740, he bought the house now occupied by his grandson, Solomon Townsend, in Oyster Bay. He was actively engaged in the English and West India trade, which he successfully prosecuted until the Revolution, when, beside the unavoidable obstructions to business occasioned by the war, he being a Whig, was subjected to many annoyances and interrup-

tions from the British after they obtained possession of the place. Before that time he was a member of the Provincial Congress, and at the close of the war resumed his seat, and continued in public life until his death. He was a State Senator, and a member of the first Council of Appointment under the Constitution, in 1789. Before the Revolution, he had been for thirty years a Justice of the Peace. He died November 24th, 1790, and was buried in the graveyard south side of Fort Hill. His wife died April 10th, 1800. We find the following description of him in Dr. P. Townsend's Note-Book. "A fine old gentleman, of regular features, straight nose, a large blue eye, high forehead. A snuff-colored or gray suit, with silver knee and shoe buckles, a white stock of cambric lawn gathered in five plaits, fastened behind with a paste buckle, showing no collar, narrow ruffles at the shirt-bosom, gold-headed cane and cocked hat. A certain Solomon Seaman, uncle to Samuel, used to say he hated to see Sam and Sarah Townsend come into meeting, they looked so tall and proud. He was a member of meeting by birthright, his parents being strict Friends, and his wife, though baptized in the Episcopal Church, preferred the Friends. The preachers, when in Oyster Bay, made his house their home."—Issue, Solomon, Samuel, Robert, William, David, Audrey, Sarah, Phebe.

Solomon was born in 1746. In his twentieth year his father put him in command of a brig. When the Revolution broke out he was in command of the ship Glasgow, belonging to Walter Buchanan. In conse-

quence of the interruption to trade she was left in London. Captain Townsend went to Paris, where he made the acquaintance of Dr. Franklin, who gave him the following certificate when he sailed for America:

"PASSY, NEAR PARIS, *June 28th*, 1778.

"I certify, to all whom it may concern, that Captain Solomon Townsend, mariner, hath this day appeared voluntarily before me and taken the oath of allegiance to the United States of America, according to the Resolution of Congress, thereby acknowledging himself a subject of the United States. B. FRANKLIN."

The original is in the possession of his son, Solomon Townsend. He landed in Boston, and being unable to come to his father's, crossed the country to Chester, Orange County, to the residence of Peter Townsend, son of the 4th Henry. After an absence of seven years, Captain Townsend, by appointment, met some of his family on Shelter Island. Returning to Chester, he married Anne, daughter of Peter Townsend, bought property adjoining his father-in-law, and established extensive iron-works, but he resided in New York, where he did a large business in iron. He also established a manufactory of bar-iron on Peconic River, Suffolk County. He, in common with others, suffered severely from the commercial derangements in the early part of the century, but he continued his manufacturing operations until his death. He frequently represented New York in the State Legislature, and was a member at the

time of his death, which occurred March 27, 1811. His wife died April 26, 1823.—Issue, Hannah, Anne, Mary, Phebe, Samuel, Jacob, Peter, Solomon.

Hannah married Isaiah Townsend, and died November 1, 1854. (See Isaiah Townsend, Chap. X.)

Anne married Effingham Lawrence, and died October 11, 1845. (See Effingham Lawrence, Chap. X.)

Mary married Edward Holland Nicoll, of New York, and died April 5, 1849.—Issue, Henry, Solomon. Henry married Anne, daughter of Phebe Townsend and James Thorne. Solomon married Charlotte, daughter of Samuel Benjamin Nicoll, of Shelter Island.

Phebe married James Thorne, of Albany.—Issue, Sarah, Anna, Robert, Mary, Edward, John, James, Martha. Anna married Henry, son of Mary Townsend and Edward H. Nicoll. Robert married Sallie Richardson. Mary married Dr. Arthur Jackson, Middletown, Conn. Edward died unmarried, May 23, 1863.

Samuel died unmarried, February 6, 1834.

Jacob died unmarried, July 25, 1830.

Peter was educated as a physician, and published several medical works. Beside his professional labors, he was the most indefatigable collector of family history, tradition, and anecdote. His manuscripts are monuments of the zeal and industry with which he pursued his work of love. It will be observed that we make frequent use of these manuscripts. He died March 26, 1849.

Solomon, a merchant of New York, resides in Oyster Bay, in the house of his grandfather Samuel. He mar-

ried Helene, daughter of Dr. Charles Townsend, of Albany.—Issue, Solomon, Charles, Robert, Maurice, Edward, Maria.

Samuel, son of Samuel, married Esther, daughter of Penn Townsend. He died in Wilmington, N. C.—Issue, Penn, who died in infancy.

Robert, son of Samuel, died unmarried, March 7, 1838.

William, son of Samuel, died unmarried. He was drowned.

David, son of Samuel, died unmarried, May 17, 1785.

Audrey, daughter of Samuel, married Captain James Farley, and died without children, November 28, 1829.

Sarah, daughter of Samuel, died unmarried, December 19, 1842. This lady and her sisters are remembered with respect and affection by those who were in their day the young people of the family, who always found them, notwithstanding their advanced age and Mrs. Farley's blindness, most cheerful, agreeable companions.

Phebe, daughter of Samuel, married Dr. Ebenezer Seely, and died without children, October 12, 1841.

All these children of Samuel, except Samuel and William, are buried on Fort Hill.

Jacob, son of Jacob, of Jericho, was born in 1730. He settled in Oyster Bay, in the house next to his brother Samuel, and married Mercy Butler. He afterwards removed to New York, where he was extensively and

successfully engaged in mercantile pursuits. He died December 31, 1773, and was buried in the family burying-ground at Jericho.—Issue, Jacob, Almy, Hannah, Martha. Jacob died unmarried in the West Indies.

Almy married Thomas Buchanan.—Issue, Jean, Almy, Margaret, Martha, Eliza, George, Hannah, Fanny.——Jean died unmarried (1848) in her eighty-second year.

Almy married Peter P. Goelet. Margaret married Robert R. Goelet. Martha married Thomas Hicks. Eliza married Samuel Gifford, and died (1855), in her eighty-second year. George died unmarried. Hannah died unmarried. Fanny married Thomas Pearsall, and died (1863), in her eighty-fifth year.

Hannah married Major Joseph Green, and went to Ireland.

Martha married I. Pasha, Tortola, W. I.

Benjamin, son of Jacob, of Jericho, was born 1723. He married Betty, daughter of George Frost, an heiress. She is described as a wee wee woman. They lived for some time on her property at Buckram, which included the mill now belonging to Silas Cocke. In 1769, they sold to Zebulon Frost, and removed to Jericho, where, upon the place which was his grandfather's, now owned by Samuel Underhill, he built a house, the first of two stories, front and rear, erected in this part of the country. Samuel Underhill told us he had heard of a wagon-full of people going up from Oyster Bay to look at the "high house." He died September 18, 1789, and was

buried on his own place, in the family burying-ground.—Issue, Frost, James, Elizabeth, Benjamin, George, ~~Nancy~~ ANN, Phebe.

Frost died unmarried, July 18, 1770, aged twenty-one. James died at sea, unmarried, February 13, 1790, aged thirty-nine years.

Elizabeth married Henry Mitchel, of New York, and was a woman of very superior character. She left no children.

Benjamin married Martha Powell.—Issue, Betsey, Mary, Jacob P., Nancy, Benjamin, Jr.

George married Elizabeth Bowne.—Issue, Walter, James.——Walter married Harriet Jones, and died January 23, 1854. James married Charlotte Robinson.

ANN *Nancy* married Abraham Franklin.

Phebe married Samuel Talman.—Issue, James T., George, Frances, Sarah, Anne, William. James T. married Mary Lawrence. George died unmarried. Frances married George W. Russell. Sarah married Gabriel Wisner. Anne married Henry Coit. William died unmarried.

James, son of Jacob, of Jericho, was born December 17, 1729. He studied medicine with Dr. Bard, one of the most eminent physicians in New York. His uncle, Nathaniel Townsend, had married the widow of Samuel Hicks, and to her daughter Mary he became very much attached; the letter in which he offered himself to her has been preserved, and we think his descendants will thank us for the perusal of it.

TO MARY HICKS.

"Most Amiable Maid: It is a long time since I first conceived an extraordinary esteem of your person and virtues, and, since I have been more particularly acquainted with you, am convinced that my opinion is founded on a firm and solid basis. Esteem it not flattery, when I tell you that, in my opinion, you excel most of your sex. When I reflect on the sweetness of your temper, the harmony of your language, the courteousness of your behavior, with the graceful deportment of your person, adorned with an unaffected and charming modesty, my heart is filled with love; and if a breast void of dissimulation, with a passion founded on the strictest principles of virtue and honor, could plead me a return of your affection, I should not much doubt of obtaining it. Though perhaps you cannot grant me that, I am sensible the sweetness of your disposition will not allow you to be guilty of so much ingratitude as to hate any one for loving you, so that I may hope that by continuing my endeavors to convince you of the greatness and sincerity of my passion, I may at last cause you to commiserate my condition and bless me with your love, the attaining of which is my chief aim in presenting you with these. Pray pardon my boldness in addressing you after this manner, and believe me to be your sincere admirer and humble servant,

"James Townsend.

"21*st of March*, 1755."

The answer of the lady is not extant, but it was favorable, and in 1756, when he was at the Bay of Honduras—on what errand does not appear—he addressed the following charming love-letter to her:

TO MARY HICKS.

"I could not, my dear Molly, without being guilty of the highest degree of ingratitude, omit this opportunity of writing to one who had so great an esteem for me as to think me worthy of the first place in her affection, and who expressed so great and tender a concern for my welfare as you did when I last saw you. I had a short and pleasant voyage to this place, and am now in a good state of health, as my sincerest wish is these may find you. I am sorry to tell you that I do not expect to see you before next summer, my affairs here being likely to detain me longer than I expected when I left Long Island. I beg, my dear Molly, that you will not impute my continuing here to a coldness or alienation in my affection, for I can truly assure you that my love is no ways impaired by absence, and that I have as great an opinion of and esteem for your person and virtues, and my affection is so firmly centred on you that it is impossible for time or absence to remove or diminish it. What gives me the greatest uneasiness is that I am obliged to be so long absent from you, and no probability of hearing from you while I am here. Excuse me, my dear Molly, for reminding you of the fidelity that we have mutually promised each other. Although

I have no reason to doubt the sincerity of your love, I must acknowledge to you that when I consider of your merit and my absence, I cannot keep the thought of a rival out of my breast, and notwithstanding I imagine your love is as truly fixed as mine, yet the threats and entreaties of friends, and such as say they are and are not, I am sensible with some (though I hope I may exclude you out of the number) would induce them to pursue measures contrary to their inclination. Allow me, dear Molly, to mention to you a couple of lines that I have met with somewhere in the course of my reading, and to recommend them to you; they are these:

> "'Let no dire threat, or kind entreaties move
> To give thy person where thou canst not love.'

"May the Protector of virgin innocence be with you. With the greatest sincerity and warmth of affection, I most tenderly salute you, and am, my dear Molly, immutably yours. JAS. TOWNSEND.

"My best respects to your uncle and aunt, to Polly Willets, and all inquirers in general.

"JAS. TOWNSEND.

"BAY OF HONDURAS, 14*th of March*, 1756."

His fears of a rival, if indeed they were any thing more than the rhetorical flourish of a lover, proved unfounded, and they were married, April 2, 1757, and settled upon his father's homestead at Jericho, where he practised medicine. He was a member of the Provin-

cial Congress before the British took possession of the Town, and was elected a member of the first Federal Congress, in 1789, but he died before the session opened. The circumstances of his death, and that of four of his seven children, within a few days of each other, make one of the saddest records we ever read. The seven were, Mary, Patty, James, Phebe, Almy, Samuel, Margaret. In 1787, Samuel, a lad of seventeen, went to New York, into the counting-house of Moses Rogers. In 1788, Almy married Townsend Underhill, a merchant in New York. In 1789, Phebe married John Townsend, also a merchant in New York. These three absent members kept up a lively correspondence with their family at Jericho, especially with Mary, the oldest sister. A great many of these letters are in the possession of Miss Mary Townsend, the daughter of Margaret. They are very interesting in themselves, showing great warmth of family affection, and written in a very easy, agreeable style; but when read with the knowledge of the melancholy fate that was so soon to befall this united, happy young family, they are extremely touching. A few of them we will insert. The first is from Phebe to Almy, then living in New York. It was written December 9, 1788. She was married early in 1789, and was now making her preparations. It may be edifying to the brides of the present generation to know something of the preparations made by their great-grandmothers for the important event, and, to add to the interest on this occasion, we will state the fact that the bride was a beauty.

TO MRS. ALMY UNDERHILL.

"JERICHO, *Dec. 9th*, 1788.

"DEAR SISTER:—To convince you how happy I am to hear from you, I sit down to thank you for your favor (which I received on Sunday) of a pretty late date. I thought quite hard that you could not answer my letter, though I read yours to Mary with pleasure, if you would not write to me. Oh, Almy, you do not know how much I want to see you, though I cannot wish you to come now, lest you would not come in a few weeks hence, when I am to promise to remain in one mind forever. I could wish my dear sister and brothers to be present when the solemn ceremony is performed; however, if you had rather come now than wait a few weeks longer, I can't insist upon it.

"I send enclosed four pounds, with which I shall be much obliged to you to get me silk for a bonnet. White satin I have seen, from Tenbrook's, which was twelve shillings a yard, that I think good enough; but don't think it is so white as I could wish. You can look at it. Perhaps I was mistaken in the whiteness of it; the width is the same of yours, and yours took three-quarters, I remember. Ribbon to put on behind, and lining for the fore-part and crown; you will know better how much to get than I can tell now. I should be glad you would get me such a muslin handkerchief as the finest one that I got for you. I likewise wish you would get me muslin and gauze for caps, a half a yard, and a half a nail of book-muslin of the width of this string. I would not wish it narrower, as that is the

width of two crowns, and narrower would not suit. Silk gauze I should prefer; get a yard and a half, if you please, and five or six yards of ribbon to trim them. I am sorry to trouble you for these things, but hope you will not make it a fatigue, as I am not in a hurry. Brother James will be in town (he now talks) at Christmas or before. I should be glad if you could get them to send by him. I believe I have done all my business, so will conclude with my most respectful compliments to Townsend and Samma (her brother Samuel), and believe me, your affectionate sister,

"PHEBE TOWNSEND.

"This goes by Hubbs, whom I shall expect you to write by.

"Monday morning.

"I shall be glad you would get me camlet for a cloak. I like the color of yours. You can inquire how much it will take, and ferret to bind the cape, and baize for lining. P. T."

The next letter is from Mary to Almy, written about two months after the birth of Almy's child, the first in the family, generally a sufficiently important event; but these sisters were more than ordinarily pleased with the little stranger, and from this time their letters show how large a space he occupied in the family circle.

TO MRS. ALMY UNDERHILL.

"27*th May*, 1789.

"The sun has just tipped the tops of the trees with gold, and I am seated to write to my sister without any

thing particular to say. It is a luxurious morning, though a little chilly; all nature looks smiling, and the birds seem to enjoy it as much as any part of the creation. I think the Sentimental Traveller might have as joyous a riot of the affections, travelling this season of the year, as he could paint to himself in the vintage in France. We can't boast of many flowers but the narcissus. We have them this year, though they are small. I am not botanist enough to account for it. I think Armstrong ascribes their blasting to the east winds; we had very cold winds from the east at the time the buds were shooting, so I can't agree with him. I rather think it is leaving the earth untouched. Another year shall try it.

"Yours by post I have received, the bit of velvet also, which I thank you for. You said you wrote in a hurry. I suppose, by the shortness of your letter, you did. I have written to know how that dear babe is several times, but can't get any particular account relative to him. He is a good child, all agree, but whether he has ever smiled I can't find out. I asked George, but he could not tell. He says he has grown considerably. I wish to know your intention with regard to sending those things talked of to bleach. Captain Farley is down, and will have things to bring up in the boat. If you would send them on board with his, I dare say he will take care to bring them ashore; we can get them any time from there.

"I have heard there is considerable small-pox in town. I hope you will be particularly careful of the babe. Is

the measles done in town? I hear it is now in Jericho. The whooping-cough is not far from us. John has had a chance to catch it. Should they get both, it would be bad indeed. Aunt A.'s wheel is buzzing, and I must join, so conclude with love to Townsend.

"Your affectionate sister, M. T."

This Mary, the oldest of the family, seems not only to have relieved her mother of the care of the household, but to have assisted in every possible way the two young housekeepers in town. There is no letter in which there is not some allusion to matters which she had in hand for them, and her letters prove her to have had an excellent head to contrive, as well as a skilful hand to execute, all the arrangements for household comforts and necessities. The next letter is from her to Patty, written while on a visit to Phebe and Almy, in November, 1789.

TO MISS PATTY TOWNSEND.

"*Nov.* 20*th*, Little Dock Street.

"Dear Sister:—Several of my last letters I wrote in such a hurry, that I could not mention particulars; now have time, but am troubled with the toothache, which will prevent my being as particular as I intended. When I last wrote I was at Brooklyn, where I stayed till Tuesday afternoon. Since I returned to town have been with sisters; only yester afternoon Almy and I went to John Coles's. Almy's girl has been very ill with

the pleurisy. She is much better, and I am in hopes she will be able to do her work in a few days.

"I expected, when I wrote, to have been home the last of this week, but Townsend is about buying Leonard Lawrence's place at Flushing, or, rather, bartering away a house in town, which will detain us longer than we wished. He goes up to Flushing at Christmas, then Leonard is to come to town and draw writings, if they do not repent of their bargain, on Townsend going up; after which, Townsend assures me, nothing shall prevent his going immediately to Jericho. Townsend thinks he is likely to make a very good bargain, and Almy says Leonard is equally pleased. It is clever when people can be pleased all around. John and Phebe will not go up till the latter end of next month, neither do I think Sammy will. He does not choose to go till after the holidays, and I wish him to be up when Phebe is, as there will be fewer of them to be attended to and make a noise about the house. Sammy and Muirson are a good match in many respects; they are both wild for skating. Muirson wanted Sammy to go with him a few evenings ago, on the Collect. I said so much that it prevented them. I told them I would engage that none but children ventured, then Muirson says, 'Sammy, I hope it will blow as cold as ever was,' and the next night they would go. I suppose this weather will suit them.

"Yesterday, Townsend, Almy, and I received an invitation to dine to-day at Abraham Franklin's, which we intend to accept. I have drunk tea twice there, and have had invitations to dine before, but could not accept

them. I have not visited very much since I have been in town, at least for the time that I have been here. I keep busy with one thing or other, and shall not have much to show that I have done. Phebe's curtains are almost done; should have finished them yesterday, but fell short of binding. I helped Almy cut her curtains yesterday, and shall help her make them while I am here. What is the reason James don't come down? does his work keep him home? Townsend tells Almy if they go up before James makes his visit, it will look as if they did not want to see him.

"I was in hopes of hearing particularly from home. I received Peggy's letter, with the turnips. She was very short in writing. I suppose want of time prevented. If you have an opportunity, do write all the news. If the bear-skin is done let me know how it looks, and how much you have. I have a notion entered me (you know I am full of notions) that if there is cloth, and what is clever, to make Sammy a coat. The reason I want to know now is, that I may get buttons and trimmings. How are the waistcoats? I suppose they are wove, if not dressed.

"Phebe desired me, when I wrote, I would ask you to give her a little tow candle-wick; she has got tallow and wants to make candles before she goes to the country. Almy will be very glad of some,—a little will serve both. Townsend and Almy join in love. This I expect will go by Whitehouse, who is in town, and, I hear, going up to-morrow.

"Your affectionate M. T."

Muirson, mentioned in this letter, was the son of Benjamin Wolsey, and a ward of James Townsend, of Duck Pond, about the age of Sammy. The following letter is from Mary, probably the last she ever wrote, announcing her mother's illness. It is not known that her disease was the same with which her husband and children died, but most probably it was, as it occurred at the same time, and appears to have been of a very peculiar and uncommon character.

TO MRS. PHEBE TOWNSEND.

"Dear Sister:—In compliance with yours, that I received on Sunday, I embrace the first opportunity to inform you how our mother is, and has been, since I last wrote. She was as she had been for some time, and continued so till Friday evening, when she complained of being a little chilly, and we proposed her going to bed, but she rather declined, and sat till we found her faint; we led her to the bed; she was very sick at her stomach a little while, and then had the severest ague I ever saw a person have. We sat till her ague seemed going off, and she seemed quite drowsy, and then went to bed. We had not been long in bed before she was taken with a violent pain in one knee, and then in her breast and head. She lost her strength immediately, so that she could not turn herself without help. The next day she was easier, and when she lay perfectly still, was almost clear of pain, but complained of such weariness that, when awake, she often wanted to be turned, and then the pain returned violently in her breast. She was very

drowsy all the next day,—a very high fever, which continued till last night about one o'clock, I found she began to perspire, and the middle of the forenoon she perspired very much; she was much relieved by it. We then put on dry linen, but she still perspires, and appears much better. She has slept but little since Saturday, and not any to-day. I am in hopes she will rest better to-night. I am much encouraged,—perhaps too much so. Papa has a very bad cold, but has been this day to Oyster Bay, where he saw Tommy Cock, who told him you were well last evening. Aunt Almy has been, and still is, very poorly, with a bad cold; she has had both her ears gathered, and has been very deaf. This day she can hear much better.

"I have endeavored to be particular, knowing you would be anxious. I shall write again the next opportunity, and hope I can give you a more satisfactory account. The basket and things came safe, for which I return thanks, and should send the basket by E. P., but expect he will go loaded. Betsey goes to Bay Side, in a wagon, and I intend to get her to take it that way, as it can go with little trouble to anybody. If mother should get better, and the weather good, we think to have your curtains washed, and send them the same way, that is, by Betsey, to the Bay Side, to go down with Samuel Talman's family. My love to Almy, and tell her this letter is designed for her, although addressed to you, and that I received hers on Sunday morning. Am as ever, Your affectionate M. T.

"To brothers I send love, also, and hope it will be acceptable.

"*Morning of the* 28*th.*—I did not seal my letter last night, as I wished to see how mother was this morn. She continues better, but slept very little. Our neighbor, John Carpenter, died yesterday. M. T."

This letter is not dated, but was written the 27th and 28th of April, 1790. Two or three days after, alarming intelligence was sent of the illness of other members of the family, and the sisters and their husbands went up to Jericho. The husbands returned to New York on Monday, the 3d of May. Samuel went up on the 4th. The following letter from John Townsend, written on the 5th, shows that their principal anxiety was then for the father.

TO MRS. PHEBE TOWNSEND.

"New York, *May 5th*, 1790.

"Dear Phebe:—I have heard, by Carr Hubbs, that our father is very ill, and by his representation, I fear worse than when I left Jericho. You may imagine my concern, and what I feel on the occasion. Why did you not write me by the above conveyance, as you know how anxious I am? Let not an opportunity escape you now, my dear, in writing. Let me know how the rest are. I am told by Hubbs they are better. My apprehensions, therefore, rest on our father, whose illness appears to be alarming.

"Our cousin Jacob Seaman's family are better, and the rest of my friends here are well, I believe. Fail not to write me by the first conveyance, and believe me,

"Ever yours, JOHN TOWNSEND."

This letter was written on Wednesday, the 5th; on the evening of Friday, the 7th, Mary died; on Wednesday, the 12th, Samuel died, and Almy the same evening, and Phebe the night of Friday, the 14th. The father lingered until Monday, the 24th, when he died, and a servant-woman some time in the interval. The cause of this fearful mortality is unknown, but as it was confined entirely to that house, it must have been local. As might be supposed, the survivors of the family were completely stunned, and we have been told that the neighbors attended to all their farming operations, the only son remaining being entirely incapable of exertion. In a letter from Townsend Underhill to Mrs. Smith, of Smithtown, half-sister of Mrs. Townsend, written in July, he speaks of Mrs. Townsend as then slowly recovering. After the death of Dr. Townsend, Patty, the eldest of the two surviving daughters, married Edmund Willis. James, the only son, went to New York. Margaret married William Townsend, of Oyster Bay. Her mother came to live with her, the farm was sold, and the name of Townsend was extinct at Jericho, where it was one of the first six European names known. It died out in a most melancholy manner; but of all who have borne it, none did it greater honor than Dr. James Townsend. His wife died in Oyster Bay, July 2d,

1796, and was buried with her husband and children, at Jericho.—Issue, Mary, Patty, James, Phebe, Almy, Samuel, Margaret.

Mary was born November 16th, 1759, and died May 7th, 1790, unmarried.

Patty was born December 26th, 1761, married Edmund Willis, an active member of Friends' Meeting, and died, without children, January 22d, 1810.

James was born October 16th, 1763. After the death of his father he went to New York, where he was a successful merchant, highly respected for his strong mind and sterling integrity. He married Bathsie Ketchum, and, retiring from business, settled at Newark, where he died, in 1831; his wife, in 1837.—Issue, Nathaniel, James, Mary. The first two died young.

Phebe was born September 26th, 1765, and married John, son of James Townsend, of Duck Pond, a merchant in New York, and died May 14th, 1790.

Almy was born April 18th, 1768, married Townsend Underhill, merchant in New York, and died May 12th, 1790.—Issue, Benjamin. (See *Townsend Underhill*, Chap. XVII.)

Samuel was born March 20th, 1770, and died May 12th, 1790, unmarried.

Margaret was born February 6th, 1772, married William, son of James Townsend, of Duck Pond, and died October 11th, 1818, and was buried at Duck Pond, leaving her children a strong consolation in the recollection of her many virtues, which render her memory

sacred even beyond that of most mothers. (See *William Townsend, of James*, Chap. VII.)

NATHANIEL, son of James 1st, of Jericho, was born February 25th, 1698. He bought of his cousin, Job Townsend, of Rhode Island, the homestead given to Solomon, father of Job, by his father John. It is believed to be the place afterwards owned by Elias Hicks. It is not known who his first wife was. In 1739 he married Martha, widow of Samuel Hicks, whose maiden name was Doughty. She had two children by her first husband: Samuel, who died unmarried in 1759, and Mary, who married Dr. James Townsend. Of Nathaniel we know nothing, except that he was an active member of Friends' Meeting, as their Record shows. He died May 22d, 1754; his wife, July 19th, 1759.—Issue by the first wife, Jacob, Stephen, John; by the second, Martha, Nathaniel, Elizabeth, Almy.

Jacob was born May 3d, 1725, and died in Jamaica, W. I., March, 1745.

John was born November 6th, 1729; died at Guadaloupe, W. I., February 25th, 1763.

In connection with these two deaths in the West Indies, we will state that there is a family tradition that *some* Townsend, at *some* time, died in the West Indies, leaving an immense estate, the proceeds of which, with accumulated interest, amounting to eight millions (it is not stated whether sterling or not), are in the English Exchequer, awaiting a claimant. A person connected with the family, who was not long since in England,

reports that *it is still waiting.* Now if some sanguine, adventurous Townsend follows up the hint we have given, and secures that eight millions, we think we shall be entitled to at least one million.

Stephen was born July 18th, 1727, and married Deborah Smith. He inherited the homestead, but sold it and left Jericho; we think he went to Flushing. His son Nathaniel lived in Glen Cove, where his son Walter now lives.

Martha was born July 2d, 1741: she married Charles Jeffrey Smith, of Smithtown, who was engaged with Solomon Townsend in the manufacture of bar-iron, at Peconic River. She left no children.

Nathaniel was born October 5th, 1743, and married Martha Cornell, 1769. He lived in Brooklyn.—Issue, William, Jacob.

Elizabeth was born July 20th, 1749. She married —— Cornell, and died 1767.

Almy was born April 19th, 1746. She lived with her half-sister, wife of Dr. James Townsend. When his family was broken up, she took up her residence with his son-in-law, John Townsend, in whose family she resided several years. She then came to Oyster Bay, to her niece Margaret, with whom she died, very suddenly, August 9th, 1811. Of all these families, the existing correspondence shows her to have been a highly valued member. To all the daughters, in each family, she left legacies. She was buried at Jericho—the last of the family laid there.

CHAPTER IV.

THOMAS, SON OF JOHN 1st.

This second son of John seems to have resembled his father in his untiring energy and activity, which, with a remarkable faculty for conciliating all around him, joined to a very superior mind and education, made him a most important person in the new settlement. He must have been over twenty-one when the family came to Oyster Bay, but he does not appear much upon the Records for a few years. After that, there was no public matter in which he did not take an active and leading part, besides being very much consulted and employed by his neighbors about their private affairs. For many years, there is scarcely a page in the Records upon which his name does not appear; and there can be no doubt that, if placed in a wider sphere of action, he would have achieved celebrity. In the settlement of the boundaries with Huntington, Hempstead, and Robert Williams, in the purchase of lands from the Indians, and procuring of patents from the Governors, the services of "our trusty and well-beloved friend, Thomas Townsend," were indispensable. There was no office of any consequence in the town which he did not hold, several at one time, and never without one, from his first appearance until he left Oyster Bay. He was Cap-

tain of the militia, Constable, Surveyor, Recorder, and Justice. The idea of an important person holding some of these offices is ludicrous to us, but it was far from being so with that generation; they were all honorable posts, in their eyes. His Majesty's Justices of the Peace were always men of the highest position and consideration. The office of Surveyor was especially important. That the persons who held it should be men of ability in their profession, and of integrity, was absolutely necessary. Otherwise, in a new settlement, where the divisions were so numerous and small, their whole system would have been thrown into chaos. There are indications that the Town-Clerks—at least Thomas and his son—acted in that capacity not merely as Recorders, but as lawyers. And the Constable, in his official capacity, waits upon the Governor on various important matters. Thomas Townsend was not less popular with the Indians than with the whites. Besides selling him very large tracts, they gave land to his sons and to his daughters,—an unparalleled instance. The few of his writings extant, are remarkable for perspicuity and condensation. The name of his first wife, the mother of his children, is unknown. Dr. P. Townsend says the second was Mary, daughter of Colonel Job Almy, of Rhode Island, and a sister of Audrey, wife of James 1st, of Jericho. About 1673, he built the house lately owned by Mrs. Summers. In 1686, he removed to Portsmouth, Rhode Island, where he held the office of Sheriff. He returned to Oyster Bay in 1697, but remained a very short time, and went to

Tiverton, Bristol County, Boston Colony. At the death of his son, in 1709, he came back to Oyster Bay, and was immediately elected Recorder, the office being left vacant by John's death. The last time he appears upon the Records is in 1712, when he could not have been less than seventy-five, probably more. There is reason to think he returned to Rhode Island and died there. —Issue, Temperance, Sylvanus, Freelove, Sarah, John. The first two died in infancy.

FREELOVE, DAUGHTER OF THOMAS,

Was born on the 29th of December, 1674, and married Thomas Jones, of Rhode Island. Her father gave her a very large tract of land, at Fort Neck, still owned by her descendants, the Floyd Jones family. Major Jones built the "old brick house" upon this property. Thompson says, about 1696 Freelove also received, among other property from her father, a house and two lots, in Oyster Bay, which Major Jones sold, in 1712, to George Townsend. Major Jones died in 1713, and was buried at Fort Neck. Freelove married again to Major Timothy Bagley, by whom she had no children. She died July, 1726.—Issue, David, Thomas, William, Margaret, Sarah, Elizabeth, Freelove. Thomas died unmarried—he was drowned. Margaret married Ezekiel Smith, Sarah married Gerardus Clowes, Elizabeth married Jeremiah Mitchell, and Freelove married Thomas Smith.

DAVID was born 1699, married Anne, daughter of Colonel William Willet. He was a Judge of the

Supreme Court of the colony. He died October 11, 1775. He inherited the estate, which he left to his son Thomas for life, with remainder to his daughter Arabella, in case of failure of issue to Thomas. In the Revolution, Thomas, remaining loyal, was attainted, and his property confiscated, and Arabella, wife of Richard Floyd, succeeded to it. Her son, David Richard Floyd, added the name of Jones to his own, and his descendants still retain the property and the double name.

WILLIAM was born April 25th, 1708. He married Phebe, daughter of Colonel John Jackson.—Issue, David, Samuel, William, Thomas, Gilbert, John, Walter, Richard, Hallet, Freelove, Elizabeth, Margaret, Phebe, Sarah. Freelove married Benjamin Birdsall, Elizabeth married Jacob Conkling, Margaret married Townsend Hewlett (see *Townsend Hewlett*, Chap. VI.), Phebe married Benjamin Rowland, and Sarah married John Willis.

SAMUEL was one of the most distinguished lawyers that New York has produced, and he was an active patriot during the Revolution. He married Cornelia, daughter of Elbert Herring, of New York, and died November 21, 1819.—Issue, Samuel, also an eminent lawyer, William, Elbert, Thomas, and David S.

JOHN married Hannah, daughter of Sarah Townsend and John Hewlett.—Issue, William, John H., Walter, Joshua, and Charles.

SARAH, DAUGHTER OF THOMAS,

Was born June 10, 1679, and married Abraham, son of

Captain John Underhill. They lived at Wolver Hollow, then called Susco's Wigwam. In 1712 they bought the house lately owned by Hamilton, but do not appear to have lived in it. He died in 1713. She survived him several years, and was an active, intelligent woman in the management of her property, which appears to have been very considerable. Of her family nothing is known but that she had a son William, who lived at Huntington in 1717, and a daughter Sarah, who married James Dickinson.

JOHN, SON OF THOMAS,

Was born August 28, 1672. The tradition is, that he was a very handsome man. He was married in Rhode Island, April 28, 1692, to Rebekah Almy, and moved to Oyster Bay, where his father gave him his house, having first offered him the Fort Neck property, which John declined, saying, "Does father want me to go out of the world?" He immediately took the place in the community which his father had held. He was Surveyor, Recorder, Supervisor, and Justice, all at the same time. For his services in settling the allotments in the New Purchase, the owners presented him with a tract of land. His wife died February 24, 1703; and he married Rose, daughter of Mary Townsend and John Wright, and widow of Nathaniel Coles, Jr. He died November 6, 1709, of the small-pox, and was buried on Fort Hill. Thompson says that at the time of his death he was a member of the Provincial Assembly. He is called in the Records "Rhode Island John" and "Justice John."

—Issue, by the first wife, Thomas, Philena, and John; by the second, Penn and Rose. The children of the first wife were sent to Rhode Island, to Rose, sister of Thomas, and wife of Samuel Hayden, to whom John gives a deed of land to pay their expenses. Of Philena nothing further is known. Thomas and John returned to Oyster Bay, but nothing more is known of them, except that Thomas removed to the Oblong, Duchess County.

ROSE married Zebulon, son of Rose Townsend and Joseph Dickinson.—Issue, Townsend, Henry. (See *Zebulon Dickinson*, Chap. XIII.)

PENN was born November 11, 1706. It is not often that any superior ability is transmitted to a son, but it is a very remarkable case in which it descends to the son, grandson, and great-grandson. John Townsend 1st was a leading man in the settlement of Flushing and Jamaica. His son Thomas may, with propriety, be called *the* leading man of Oyster Bay. His only son, John, succeeded to his influence and popularity, and years after they had passed away, John's son Penn occupied much the same position. In his day all the particulars of business, public and private, were not entered upon the Records, as in the time of his grandfather; beside that the settlement had received its form, and business settled into a routine, so that he does not stand out upon the Records so prominently as those who shaped and moulded the young community; but we find him holding the same offices, and tradition assigns him the same position in the public esteem, and adds that

he inherited his father's beauty as well as his ability and popularity. He was married January 15, 1739, to Esther, daughter of Zeruiah Townsend and Doctor Matthew Parish. He died December 20, 1756, and his wife, January 2, 1792. They were buried on B. T. Underhill's place, his mother's homestead.—Issue, Rose, Freelove, Penn, Judith, Esther, and Deborah. The first three died in infancy.

Judith was born September 8, 1753. This lady's history would make no bad theme for a novelist. It is certainly well calculated to "point a moral," if not "to adorn a tale." She was married August, 1767, to John, son of Jotham Townsend, she being not quite seventeen, he not less than forty-four. She was a handsome woman, of very attractive manners, which, with her elegant taste in dress, made her the oracle of the young ladies in Oyster Bay. The mill property was left to her husband by his father, to revert to Freelove Wilmot (his niece) if he died without heirs, and they had no children. He was a Justice, and one of the most active loyalists at the time of the Revolution. He went to England some time during the war, probably on public business. He had made himself so odious to the patriots, that, after the war, he feared not only the confiscation of his property, which he made over to his mother-in-law, but for his personal safety, and lived in concealment in New York. It was this circumstance, probably, which suggested to Judith's active, scheming brain the idea of concealing his death, which occurred December 7, 1785, until she had secured every thing

possible to be removed from the property. She stripped the place of the wood, in which the value of a great part of it consisted. How long his death was kept secret is not known—probably for two or three years—nor have we been able to learn how it was discovered; but it is most likely that, having secured every thing but the land, she thought the time had come to claim that, under the deed to her mother. The heir, Freelove Wilmot, then the wife of James Townsend, of Duck Pond, brought suit to recover her rights, with Aaron Burr as counsel. It was defended upon a quibble. Mr. Bogart, counsel for Judith, told Chancellor McCoun, who studied with him, that she was the most remarkable woman he ever knew; that she had mastered the case completely, and was better acquainted with all the authorities bearing upon the points at issue than any of the lawyers. But it availed her nothing. Language could not be made more explicit than that of the will. Aaron Burr announced the decision in favor of his client in a letter now in the possession of her grandson, J. C. Townsend. In the course of the trial, Dr. Kissam, who attended John Townsend in his last illness, made the following deposition:—

"Benjamin Kissam, of the city of New York, physician, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that he knew John Townsend, formerly of Oyster Bay, several years before his death; that he appeared to him to be a man of plain understanding and sound mind; that, from an examination of his books, he finds that on the 1st day

of December, 1785, that he was sent for to visit the said John Townsend, at the house of Peter R. Kissam, in the city of New York; that he accordingly visited him, and found him to be in a fever, which proved to be the eruptive fever of the small-pox; that the deponent consented to the removal of him to a more airy situation, which was done on the third day of the same month, to the house of a Mr. Harvey, —— street, in the said city; that the deponent attended him there and at his former lodgings, faithfully, until his death, which happened on the seventh day of the same month; that during his illness the deponent prescribed such medicines and remedies as appeared to be proper for his case; that Mrs. Deborah Kissam and Mrs. Rachel Wheeler (then Rachel Townsend) attended him during his illness, and that he appeared to be perfectly satisfied and content with his treatment; that the deponent informed the said John Townsend of his dangerous situation, and proposed to call in another physician, but that he declined it; that during his illness the deponent was desired by the relations attending him to keep his residence in New York a secret, as they had particular reasons for it, and requested him, after his removal, to charge his medicine and attendance to Mr. Heywood (by which name the deponent was informed he was known at Mr. Harvey's), and that the deponent made his charges and directed the medicine accordingly; that some months after the death of the said John Townsend, John Kissam, attended by another person, called on the deponent, and asked him several questions respecting the death of the

said John Townsend; that the deponent, from a view of his books, told them the time when he was taken ill, when removed, and when he died; that, among other questions, he was asked if Mrs. Townsend, wife of the said John Townsend, was with him during his illness, to which the deponent answered in the affirmative,—but from a conversation since with Mrs. P. Kissam, and from a recollection of several circumstances, he is convinced that he was mistaken in the fact last above mentioned, as Mrs. Townsend was not in New York during her husband's illness or at the time of his death; that he supposes the mistake arose from having seen Mrs. Townsend with her husband a few days before his illness; that the said John Townsend, during the early part of his illness, was in full possession of his mind and understanding; that the deponent understood the said John Townsend had concealed himself voluntarily, a long time before his death, and that his concealment during his residence in the city of New York, immediately before and during his last illness, was also voluntary; that he does not recollect any thing that can induce him to believe that the said John Townsend was under any constraint from his wife, as to his concealment, as he always spoke of her in an affectionate manner; but that the deponent had an impression that the said John Townsend kept close to avoid certain laws that had been made, which he thought might affect him,—but he does not recollect from whom that impression comes.

"Sworn to, this 29th day of August, 1789.

"Benj. Kissam."

During the latter part of her life, Judith lived with her sister in Saratoga County, but came to Oyster Bay every summer to visit her numerous relations, and died here in the old homestead, in South street, in 1841, and was buried at B. T. Underhill's. She retained to the last the fascinating manners of her youth. Perhaps if this unhappy woman had had an equally legitimate field for the exercise of her very superior ability, she might have succeeded to the honorable distinction hereditary in her branch of the family.

Esther, daughter of Penn, married, first, Samuel, son of Samuel Townsend; second, William Thorne; and third, —— Lefferts.—Issue, by her first husband, Penn, who died in infancy; by the second, Hannah, Clara, and William Penn.

Deborah, daughter of Penn, was born January 6, 1756; she married Peter R. Kissam in 1779, and afterwards Charles Isles.—Issue, by her first husband, Catherine, Benjamin, Esther, and Samuel.

CHAPTER V.

ELIZABETH, DAUGHTER OF JOHN 1ST,

MARRIED Gideon, son of Peter Wright. After his death, she married Gershom Lockwood, who came from Connecticut, and returned there after his marriage to her.—Issue, by her first husband, Peter, Anthony, Sylvanus, John, Gideon, Elizabeth, Hannah, and another daughter, whose name was probably Tabitha. Elizabeth married Isaiah Harrison. Her family removed from Oyster Bay, and nothing is known of them or of Hannah. Sylvanus had an only son, Charles, who lived at Jericho, we think.

ANTHONY married Mary Rhodes, daughter of the first Baptist clergyman in Oyster Bay, September 18, 1702. He was for several years a prominent person on the Record, and received, as heir of Peter Wright, a large tract of land, on the south of the Old Purchase. Nothing is known of his family, except the births of two children, Peter and Dinah.

JOHN does not appear upon the Records, but George Weeks lent us an antique memorandum-book which proved to have belonged to him. He bought it from William Bradford, 1699. Among other entries in it is the following: "I, John Wright, arrived at Newport, Rhode Island, to dwell, the 19th day of April, in

ye year of our Lord 1707." And "John Wright and Abigail Barker was married by Samuel Cranston, Governor, ye 27th day of January, 1707." He appears to have been master of a vessel, and from his Note-Book and another book belonging to him, also lent us by George Weeks, was evidently a man of piety, intelligence, and education. His memorandum-book is bound in parchment, with a brass clasp, and is in perfect preservation. It is probable that he had no family, as there are entries of the birth of two of Anthony's children, but none of his own.

GIDEON was married July 5, 1702; it is not known to whom. He had a large property in the Mill River Hollow, which has remained in his family until a very short time ago.—Issue, John, Zebulon, Elijah. Of the first two we know nothing. Elijah was born April 4, 1713, and married Anna ——. He lived upon the place lately owned by Walter Franklin.—Issue, Freelove, born April 22, 1743; Mary, December 3, 1744; Zebulon, December 30, 1747; and Gideon, September 30, 1751. Of the first three nothing more is known. GIDEON inherited the homestead and was married December 6, 1772, to Mary, daughter of Henry Dickenson and Ruth Townsend, who was born November 12, 1754. Henry Dickenson was the son of Rose (daughter of Justice John Townsend and Rose, daughter of Mary Townsend and John Wright) and Zebulon, son of Rose Townsend and Joseph Dickenson. Gideon died June 12, 1836, and his wife, May 6, 1842.—Issue, Freelove, Letitia, Susannah, Elizabeth, Mary.

Freelove was born September 12, 1773, and married George Cock. (See *George Cock*, son of John, Chap. VII.)

Letitia was born April 18, 1776, and was married January 13, 1795, to Walter Franklin, who was born June 15, 1773. She died September 2, 1842, and her husband, November 16, 1856.—Issue, Thomas; Sarah, married to Lawrence E. Embrie, July, 9, 1821; Townsend U., married Elizabeth McCalla, October 19, 1834; Betsey, married George D. Townsend, April 18, 1832; Mary W., married Walter F. Townsend, 1857; Rebecca, married, first, Townsend Dickenson, August 12, 1830, and, second, John Gracey, October 9, 1850; Walter M., married Anne M. Mott; Susan, married William G. Merritt; and Gideon W., married Eliza Hegerman.

Susannah married Coe S. Downsing, Duchess County.

Elizabeth married Obadiah Jackson.

Mary married Daniel Cock, 1808. (See *Daniel*, son of John Cock, Chap. VII.)

CHAPTER VI.

JAMES, SON OF JOHN 1ST.

We find by the Records that James married (2) Jane Ruddock, and (2) Delivered ——. From Dr. Peter Townsend's Note-Book, we find that his first wife was a Wright, which accounts for several gifts of land made to him and his son James by Anthony and Job Wright, and Richard Crabb. She must have been a daughter of Peter Wright. To his second wife, Jane, daughter of Henry Ruddock, he was married October 16, 1677. His homestead was the place now owned by the family of T. W. Burtis. This he sold, and removed to Cedar Swamp, where he settled upon the place now belonging to Robert Seaman, who married Abigail Willis, the great-great-granddaughter of James. This lady is remarkably well versed in the history of her family. She told us that her father, Townsend Willis, built the house in which she lives. The old one stood north of the pond, in what is now a locust grove. After the death of her brother, Jacob Willis, the place was sold, and one of the owners, wishing to move the barn, cut down a bank, and in so doing found the bone of a human leg standing upright. Inquiry being made, Mrs. John J. Hewlett, the oldest daughter of Townsend Willis, remembered to have been told by an

old woman that there was an Indian burying-ground there. Wolver Hollow, or Susco's Wigwam, and Cedar Swamp were certainly the principal settlements of the Indians. James and his brother George owned a tract of land at Norwich, to which place they gave that name in honor of the town in England, from the neighborhood of which their father came. He was a Surveyor, and although not the Town Surveyor, was one of those appointed to lay out Unkoway and Latting's Necks. He was elected Overseer while he lived at Oyster Bay. After that he held no office. Oyster Bay being the centre of population, as well as the geographical centre, the Town Officers were for many years all residents of the village. We find from the paper left by Squire George Townsend, that he died 1697 or '98, in the great sickness. There is upon the Town Records an entry, dated November 19, 1698, a confirmation, from James, the eldest son, of the gifts made by his father in his will to his wife Delivered, and his sons Job, Thomas, Daniel, Ruddock, Joseph, Joshua. Afterwards we found frequent mention on the Records of a son of James, named Rumone or Rumorn, and were at a loss to account for his not being mentioned in his father's will, until it occurred to us that he might be a posthumous child. Mrs. Seaman confirmed our supposition, and said that his mother, comparing the bitterness of her grief to rue, called him Ruemourn. He was entirely unprovided for, but his brothers contributed to make up his share, especially two (probably James and Job) who had no families, and the homestead fell to him. Thomas

and Joseph died young. Of Job we only know that he lived at Cedar Swamp. James moved to Norwich, not long after his father's death, and is called on the Records James Townsend, Jr., of Norwich. The settlement that he made with his brother Ruddock, in the division of his father's estate, shows him to have been an amiable, unselfish man. He was a Surveyor, and made many surveys with James Townsend, of Jericho. It is probable that he never married. Ruemourn, in his will, mentions his sister Deborah, but there is no other mention of her, and she might have been his mother's daughter by a second marriage. Ruddock married Abigail ——, and first lived at Norwich. He then built at Oak Neck, on the east side adjoining Pine Island, where he lived some time, and about 1714 or 1715 he removed to Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey, after which we know nothing of him.

DANIEL, SON OF JAMES, OF CEDAR SWAMP,

Married Freelove, daughter of Captain Samuel Dickenson, and died in 1724 or 1725.—Issue, John and Benjamin.

JOHN was born in 1712, and removed, in 1738, to East Chester, Westchester County, where he bought a farm. In 1739 he married Anne Gedney. He was a Friend, but his wife being an Episcopalian, he was disowned by the Meeting. He continued a Friend in principle, but contributed to the building of the Episcopal Church in East Chester. He was a very large man, being full six feet two, with a form in proportion. He had a double

row of teeth all around. He died in 1787, and was buried in the graveyard belonging to St. Paul's Church, East Chester.—Issue, Freelove, John, James, Elijah, Daniel, Mary, Margaret, Martha. John joined the American army in the Revolution, and afterward settled in Herkimer, in which County and Montgomery, we have been told, his descendants still reside. James went on board an armed vessel, and was never heard of afterward.

Freelove was born in 1740, in what was called the hard winter, when the Sound was frozen over at Throg's Point, so that wagons crossed. Her brothers were all good Whigs, but she continued loyal, and her daughter Jemima married Captain Fraser, an Irishman in the British army, with whom she went to Europe, but returned to this country, and died several years ago. Freelove married William Pinkney, a farmer of East Chester, and died in 1816 or 1817.

Elijah was born the 8th of June, 1751, and, in 1773, married Mary Tredwell, who was born July 14, 1754. He removed to Duchess County, and died April 3, 1824. His wife died April 8, 1813.—Issue, Sybil, Anna, Phebe, Tredwell, Martha, John, Hannah, Mary, Elijah, Samuel, James, Freelove, Moses.

Sybil was born May 26, 1774, married Daniel Gidley, and had six sons and two daughters. She died in Michigan, Jan. 16, 1843.

Anna was born July 1, 1776, married Stephen Du-

senberry, and had five sons and six daughters. She died in Orange County, Sept. 10, 1852.

Phebe was born March 18, 1778, married Eliezer Taylor, and had two sons and three daughters. She died in Duchess County, Feb. 7, 1834.

Tredwell was born Jan. 9, 1780, married Anna Durland, and had seven sons and two daughters. He died in Duchess County, Aug. 21, 1863.

Martha was born Jan. 18, 1781, married John Christy, and had two sons and two daughters. She died in Chautauque County, Jan. 25, 1842.

John E. was born April 5, 1782, married Margaret Macord, and had two sons and three daughters. He died in Duchess County, Oct. 4, 1836.

Hannah was born June 21, 1785, married John Mott, and had six sons and seven daughters. She died in Michigan, Dec. 24, 1845.

Mary was born Aug. 14, 1786, married Conrad Overison, and had three sons and two daughters. She died in Orange County, Jan. 11, 1859.

Elijah was born April 1, 1788, married Susan Morgan, by whom he had one son and one daughter. She died in 1825, and he married Rosannah Downing, granddaughter of Squire George Townsend, of Norwich (see *George of Richard*, Chap. VII.), and had four sons and one daughter. He died on the farm which his father first bought in Duchess County, June 17, 1860.

Samuel was born Aug. 1, 1790, married Eliza Viely, and had two sons and two daughters. He died in Chautauque County, Dec. 6, 1839.

James was born Jan. 1, 1792, married Anna Shear, and had two sons and one daughter. He died in Orange County, April 30, 1836.

Freelove was born May 16, 1793, married Joseph Budd, and had one son and two daughters. She died in Michigan, May 21, 1840.

Moses was born Nov. 12, 1794, married Hannah Alley, and had one son and five daughters. He is still living (1864).

Daniel, son of John 1st, of Westchester, was born in 1756, and married Rebecca, daughter of John Ward, of East Chester. They were said to be the handsomest couple in Westchester County. He died in 1799.—Issue, Cornelia, John, Clara, Jemima, Isaac, Elijah. The last died young, unmarried.

Cornelia was born in 1778, and married Samuel Baker, of Hyde Park, Duchess Co. She died in 1861.

John was born in 1779, and married Martha, daughter of Thomas Fowler, of East Chester. He was elected vestryman of St. Paul's Church, East Chester, 1806 or '7, and afterwards warden, and continued in that office until his death, a period of forty-three years. He was elected, in 1816, a member of Assembly, and then to the Senate. He was also a member of the last Council of Appointment that sat in this State, and was afterwards elected Sheriff. He died in 1849; his wife, in 1856.—Issue, Daniel W., James L., Edwin, Richard, Julia, Clarissa, Henrietta, Robert G., Mary R., Martha A., Hester E. Henrietta and Robert died young.

Daniel W. was married, in 1824, to Euretta M., daughter of John Conselyea, of Bushwick, L. I. From this gentleman we obtained all our information about this Westchester branch of the family.—Issue, John H., Thomas Jefferson, Ellen F., Emily F., Elijah F., Mary V., Daniel W., Henry R., Andrew E., Euretta M. John, Thomas J., and Elijah, died young.

James L. was married, in 1830, to Sarah, daughter of Christian Dederer, of East Chester.—Issue, Sarah E., Martha J., Charles H., Daniel W., John, James H., William G., Mary E. Sarah, Martha, John, William, died young.

Edwin was married, in 1826, to Anne Eliza, daughter of John Graff, of New York.—Issue, John G., Edwin F., Caroline F., Catherine M., Mandeville, Anne E., Milton, Akerly, Chester, Hamilton. Caroline, Milton, Chester, died unmarried.

Richard was married, in 1825, to Anne J. Winants, of Waterloo, New York.—Issue, Knox, Heber. Knox died young.

Julia was married, in 1835, to Henry Hull. Clarissa was married, in 1833, to James Barker, and died in 1849. Mary R. was married to Dr. Philo P. Greenley, in 1843. Hester E. married John Brown, 1850. Martha married William Hotaling, 1843.

Clara married William Adee, of New York.—Issue, Alva A. (deceased), George, Townsend.

Jemima was married, in 1804, to Charles Rodman. She died in 1845.—Issue, Rebecca.

Isaac married Priscilla, daughter of Richard Sands,

and died December, 1853.—Issue, William E., Frances C. The last died young.

Mary, daughter of John 1st, of Westchester, married Gilbert Pinkney, of Westchester.

Margaret, daughter of John 1st, of Westchester, married Stephen Sneden, of Westchester, 1763, and died in 1819.

Martha, daughter of John 1st, of Westchester, married Isaac Ward in 1773, and died in 1825.

BENJAMIN, son of Daniel, of Oyster Bay, settled at Scarsdale, Westchester County, and married Elizabeth ———, daughter of one of the Huguenots at New Rochelle.—Issue, Rudduck, who married ———.—Issue, Benjamin, Joseph, Samuel, Margaret. Benjamin married a daughter of Isaac Ward, of East Chester. Joseph lived on a farm near Bergen, N. J. He is now dead. Samuel lives on the homestead.

JOSHUA, SON OF JAMES, OF CEDAR SWAMP,

Married Meribah, daughter of John Cock, of Matinecock, and bought a place, or rather several places, at Duck Pond, where he lived. His house stood a little southeast of the one now occupied by ——— Gruman. He left a handsome property to his only child, Noah. His widow married Micajah Townsend.

NOAH, son of Joshua, married Margaret Wright, and died in 1763, leaving an only child, Joshua, very young. By his will, if the child died in his minority, the prop-

erty was to be divided between the daughters of his uncle, Ruemourn Townsend, and his mother's brothers and sisters. His executors were William and Micajah Townsend, Benjamin Wolsey, and Jacob Carpenter. The book in which the receipts were entered for all disbursements on account of the estate, makes quite a curious collection of autographs. His widow married again very soon, first to Daniel Thorne, and after his death to John Jackson. When Joshua grew up he determined to go to sea. To make the best of a bad choice, his guardians placed him with Captain Farley, who was bound for London. The last known of him, by Captain F., was, that in London he shipped on board a whaling vessel, and was impressed from it. From that time nothing was heard of him. His guardians endeavored to trace him, without effect. His father's family claimed the property, under the will, and as heirs-at-law; his mother, upon the ground that he had lived to the age of twenty-one, and then died intestate without heirs, claimed the personal property, and she brought suit to recover it. It was decided in favor of the heirs, as Joshua was nineteen when he disappeared, and there was no proof that he reached the age of twenty-one. The property remained in the hands of the executors twenty-six years. Jacob Carpenter was the only one surviving at the time the suit was brought. His answer is interesting, and we shall copy some parts of it.

"*To the Hon. Robert Livingston, Esq., Chancellor of the State of New York:*

"The answer of Jacob Carpenter, the surviving executor of the last will and testament of Noah Townsend, deceased, late of Oyster Bay, in Queen's County, on Nassau Island, in the late Colony, now State of New York, and James Townsend, one of the executors of the last wills and testaments of William Townsend and Benjamin Wolsey, two of the executors of the last will and testament of Noah Townsend, aforesaid, cited by subpœna, with others, to answer to the complaint of John Jackson, of South Hempstead, in the County of Queens, State of New York, and others named in the complaint. The orator, John Jackson, sets forth in his declaration, that he is administrator to the goods and chattels of Joshua Townsend, late of Oyster Bay, in the aforesaid County, who died intestate. To which we reply, that we know of no estate of Joshua Townsend's. The orator likewise sets forth that on the 12th day of February, 1760, Noah Townsend, then of Oyster Bay, did publish his last will and testament, in manner and form nearly as recited. This we acknowledge, and the probate of the said will is in our hands, under which authority we have acted; and further, that Joshua Townsend, son of Noah Townsend, named in said will, having manifested an inclination, in the early part of his life, for the seafaring business, undertook and made several voyages to and from different places, and having arrived at about the age of nineteen years, was, in the year of our Lord

1776, in England, where he was pressed, or entered as a seaman on board a ship-of-war, in the service of the King of Great Britain, called the Conquestadore, a guard-ship at the Nore. James Farley, master of the ship, to whom Joshua was bound by indenture, sayeth, 'That about the middle of October, 1776, in London, Joshua left him and shipped on board of a schooner bound on a whaling voyage, commanded by Captain Helmes, of New York or Long Island, and about the latter end of said month, or beginning of November, he, the said Joshua, was impressed, on board the said schooner, and sent on board the Conquestadore, a guard-ship lying at the Nore. Some days after, he thinks about three or four, he met Captain Helmes on 'Change, and he (Helmes) showed him a letter that he had received from Joshua, he thinks written on board the above-said guard-ship, concerning some clothes he had lying at Wapping. That is the last account we can give of Joshua Townsend.' The surviving executor, Jacob Carpenter, further to know what had become of him, wrote to Patience Wright, of London, a relative of Joshua, requesting her to give every information of him in her power, and in answer to which she informed him that, some time before the latter part of October, 1776, that the said Joshua Townsend did breakfast with her, on the morning of the day in which he was impressed, and that having information he was carried on board the Conquestadore, guard-ship at the Nore, she made every possible inquiry she could, respecting him; that likewise John Bourne, at her request, did go to the Navy

Office, London, and with one of the clerks in said office, did examine carefully all the books necessary in order to find out the said Joshua Townsend, but could not find, in any of them, the name of Joshua Townsend, or the least trace of him. Patience Wright was also advised to advertise for him, and did, describing his person, and offering a reward for his discovery, but without effect. Further, that John Townsend, and his son-in-law, Mr. Compton, both of London, searched the said office, and could find no traces of him; which inquiry was made by these gentlemen at the request of a John Townsend, of Oyster Bay, who went to England during the late war, and who was desired to make the inquiry. Since the war, a certain James Whaling appeared, and said that he deserted from the Torbay, man-of-war, a seventy-gun ship, at Sandy Hook; that he was messmate to a certain Joshua Townsend, who was impressed, and brought on board of said ship off Cork; that he was on board of said ship in the action with the De Grasse, in April, 1782, and had then been on board nine months; that the ship was ordered, in the month of June, to Antigua, to refit, when the said Joshua, with two others, deserted; and that he had often heard the said Joshua Townsend observe he had a mother living on Long Island, and considerable property there. This information induced the executors to request a certain Richard Lawrence, who was going to London, to search the books of said ship, to find something relative to the said Joshua; who says, in a letter to his wife, in which he requests her to inform the execu-

tors, that he had caused the books of said ship to be searched, from the year 1780 until she was paid off, but could find no such name there, and did not believe the said Joshua had ever been on board the said ship. Lawrence soon after died in London. All which letters and information are now in the hands of the executor. No certain knowledge of the death of Joshua Townsend, and that he died under age and without issue, coming to the knowledge of the surviving executor, prevented him from fulfilling that part of the will of Noah Townsend which directs, in case the said Joshua should die under age, without issue, that his real estate should be sold and divided agreeable to the will; and that the real estate of the said Noah Townsend continued under the care of the surviving executor until the 25th day of May, 1789; and that John Hewlett, and Sarah his wife, and the representatives of Mary Willis, had often demanded the real estate, and that the executor was advised by counsel, learned in the law, that the said John Hewlett, and Sarah his wife, being one of the daughters of Ruemourn Townsend, the brother of Joshua, father of the testator, and the representatives of Mary Willis, who was the other daughter of the said Ruemourn Townsend, were the heirs-at-law in case of Joshua Townsend's death, without issue, and that he might safely deliver up the real property into their hands, which was accordingly done at the time above specified; and that the aforesaid John Hewlett, and Sarah his wife, and the representatives of Mary Willis and others, the representatives of Daniel, Hezekiah,

and James Cock, and Hannah Prior, had often demanded of the executors and of James Townsend, the personal estate of the said Noah Townsend, with the rents, issues, and profits of the farm that was in their possession; and being further advised by counsel, learned in the law, that they might safely do the same, presuming, as aforesaid, that Joshua died under age, and without issue, agreeable to the will of Noah Townsend, and that on the 25th day of May, 1789, they proceeded to the same, with taking good and sufficient security and indemnification, and obliged themselves to distribute to each one his share to the other claimants, under the will of Noah Townsend, after deducting such part thereof as they (the executors) judged the share of the oratrix in the bill of complaints, as widow of Noah Townsend, on the lapse legacy, and likewise deducting, from the whole, what they judged a moderate compensation for taking charge of the estate. And as we are required by the bill of complaint to bring forward a statement of the personal estate of Noah Townsend in our hands, we insert the following: Amount of the inventory of the personal estate of Noah Townsend, £1,125, the further sum to be added of one hundred pounds, embezzled by the widow of Noah Townsend, supposed between the time of his death and the taking possession of the estate by the executors, and was never known to them until the time of settlement with the legatees, but was then and there acknowledged to be part of the estate of the said Noah Townsend, and accounted for, to them, by John Jackson, the orator, in the bill of complaint."

After reciting receipts and disbursements, the answer goes on to say:

"As the accounts of the executors looked forward to a settlement with the heir, Joshua Townsend, only, without having regard to any accident that might arise from his death, the whole personal estate was blended in one account, and was made chargeable, with the expenses of Joshua and every other contingency the estate was liable to; and as the greatest losses sustained by the property was in receiving paper money within the period stated (1775–6), the executors judged it reasonable, in ascertaining the part or share the oratrix was entitled to of the lapse legacy in the personal property, to have an eye to those losses, and how much of them had probably fallen on that part of the estate, compared with the rents of the farm at that time received; and in fixing a certain ratio, a given part of the whole, judged that the one-seventh part of the personal property in their hands was her proportion, which amounts to £352 8*s*. Amount of the whole personal property in James Townsend's hands, $2,075 15*s*. 10*d*. From which deduct £150, lost by him during the late war. His situation was near the eastern part of Queens County, within about two miles of the Sound, and near the British outpost; and being obnoxious to their Government, his house was frequently filled with soldiers and refugees; his property was thereby very much exposed, and this money was taken, with a considerable sum of his own, sometime between the years 1778 and 1783, by

persons unknown. Deduct, also, for twenty-five years service, for taking care of the estate, and for the extra trouble of William Townsend, executor to the estate, for twelve years, £147. In the hands of Jacob Carpenter, after deducting commission, £712. Total net personal estate, £2,491."

The answer further says, "that the executors had often invited the orator to bring forward his evidence, if any he had, that Joshua Townsend lived to the age of twenty-one years, and then died without issue and intestate, in order to know upon what ground he claimed the personal estate; which he ever neglected to do, neither have any such accounts ever come to the knowledge of the executors."

The estate finally divided among the heirs of Noah Townsend was ten or twelve thousand pounds.

RUEMOURN, SON OF JAMES, OF CEDAR SWAMP,

Married Mary, daughter of Captain John Allen, of Great Neck, who was born the 11th of February, 1701. He died in 1740. His widow married William Moyles, and died May 31, 1769.—Issue, Mary, Sarah, Restore. The last was born the 5th of May, 1738, and died young, and the daughters inherited the whole property, which, with the legacies they received from their mother, step-father, and cousin, Noah Townsend, gave them £3,000 each,—a very large fortune for a lady here in those days.

MARY was born December 5, 1729, and married Wil-

liam Willis, who was born May 23, 1721.—Issue, Ruth, Sarah, Abigail, Townsend, Mary, Esther. Sarah died unmarried, May 8, 1787.

Ruth was born September 7, 1751, and married Samuel Hewlett.—Issue, Louis, Phebe, William, Samuel. Louis married Hannah Hewlett. Phebe married Walter Jones. William married Martha Thorne. Samuel married Mary Hewlett.

Abigail was born November 18, 1755, and married Richard Townsend, son of Squire George, of Norwich, in 1775.—Issue, Rosannah, born November 26, 1779, died unmarried.

Townsend was born June 23, 1757, and was married March, 1783, to Hannah Bowne, who was born August 17, 1762.—Issue, Mary, Sarah, Townsend, Hannah, Abigail, Jacob, William. Hannah died unmarried.

Mary was born December 13, 1783. She married John J., son of Townsend Hewlett. We called to see this lady, and found her and her husband, aged eighty-one and eighty-two, living in the old house which was the residence of his grandfather, at East Woods, which, in its antique simplicity, is a most fitting home for this interesting couple, who have lived there sixty-three years. He retains, in a remarkable degree, the vivacity and vigor of youth. She is more feeble, but presents in her delicate features and complexion, silvery hair, and benevolent expression, which we never saw excelled,

and the refined simplicity of her manners, an example of a lovely old age, that almost makes one wish for four score. She is one of the ladies to whom we have dedicated this Memorial of her family.

Sally married William Simonson.—Issue, Townsend, Margaret, Mary, William. Townsend married Mary Frost. Margaret married Charles Anderson. Mary married Henry Williams.

Townsend married Mary Coles.—Issue, Townsend, Ethelinda, Hannah, Esther. Townsend married Mary Jackson. Ethelinda married Timothy Jackson. Esther married Thomas Jackson. Hannah married ——— Whiston.

Abigail married, first, Samuel Jones; second, Robert Seaman.

Jacob married Phebe Hewlett.—Issue, Louis H., William H., Townsend, Hannah, Abigail. Hannah married Samuel M. Titus.

William married Letitia Downing.—Issue, Mary, Harriet, Isaac T., Robert. Mary married Charles Place. Harriet married Wells Sackett. Isaac T. married Anne Place. Robert died unmarried.

Esther married Walter Jones, and died 1801.—Issue, Mary, Jackson, Sarah, Phebe, Townsend. Phebe married —— Hammett. Townsend married Mary Robbins.

SARAH, daughter of Ruemourn Townsend, was born March 18, 1736, and married, June 29, 1751, to John Hewlett, who was born February 17, 1731. They lived

upon the place at East Woods now belonging to John J. Hewlett, their grandson, but afterwards removed to Flushing, where she died, September 9, 1808, and he, April 4, 1812.—Issue, Mary, Townsend, Hannah, Isaac, Divine, Elizabeth, John.

Mary was born May 11, 1756, and married Isaac Youngs, February, 1763. She died August 20, 1819. —Issue, Hewlett, Jacob, George, Isaac.

Townsend was born June 7, 1758, and was married, February 1, 1779, to Margaret Jones, granddaughter of Freelove Townsend, who was born August 1, 1754. He lived upon the place lately occupied by his son, William M. Hewlett. He died August 6, 1832. His wife died March 21, 1825.—Issue, William M., John J., Mary, Sarah.

William M. was born in 1780, and married Martha Coles. The family Bible, lent to us by his brother, is a remarkable example of his ingenuity and dexterity. It had been very much torn and defaced, and he has supplied the missing parts of the leaves with a neatness and perfection truly surprising, especially when it is considered that he had lost one arm by an accident in his mill. He had a curious and carefully preserved collection of old papers, which his son very obligingly lent us. He died in 1864.

John J. was born November 15, 1781, and married Mary, daughter of Townsend Willis. He lives upon his grandfather's homestead, at East Woods.

Mary married J. Allen, Manhasset.

Sarah married Walter Frost.

Isaac was born March 28, 1760, married Rhoda Van Wyck, February 24, 1779. He died May 16, 1838; his wife, June 6, 1852.—Issue, Betsey, John, Mary, Sally, Abraham, Oliver, and Alfred. Betsey married William Jones; John V. married Mary Waters; Mary married Samuel Hewlett.

Hannah was born February 4, 1762, and married, May 2, 1779, to John Jones, grandson of Freelove Townsend and Thomas Jones, who was born November 31, 1755. She died December 9, 1850, and her husband, August 29, 1819.—Issue, William, John H., Walter R., Joshua, Charles, Sally, Phebe, Elizabeth, and Mary. William married Betsey Hewlett; John H. married Loretta Hewlett; Charles married Eliza Gardiner; Phebe married Charles Hewlett; and Elizabeth married Jacob Hewlett.

Divine was born February 5, 1767, and married Annie Coles, May 25, 1786. He died October 23, 1846, and his wife, April 22, 1855.—Issue, Sally, Loretta, Amelia, Elizabeth, Hannah, Anne, Jacob, John D., and William. Sally married, first, John Hewlett; second, Judge Mitchell; Loretta married John H. Jones; Amelia married Thomas Coles; Elizabeth married Henry Scudder; Hannah married Thomas Harrison; Anne married Edward Brier; Jacob married Elizabeth Jones; and John D. married, first, Jane; second, Elizabeth, daughter of Hewlett Townsend 2d. (See *Hewlett*, Chap. XVII.)

Elizabeth was born March 15, 1771, and married Samuel Jones, May 9, 1785, and died December 28, 1816.

John was born December 3, 1775, and married Mary Hewlett, October 31, 1797. He died April 13, 1812, and his wife, July 18, 1848.—Issue, Charles, Samuel, Divine, Townsend, and Martha.

CHAPTER VII.

GEORGE, SON OF JOHN 1ST,

Was born after his father came to Oyster Bay, in 1661. He inherited the homestead in South Street, and, with his brother James, owned a tract of land at Norwich, to which place they gave that name. He died in the winter of 1697, in "the great sickness," so called for more than seventy years afterwards. He was married, November 17, 1684, to Mary Hawxhurst.—Issue, Sarah, George, Richard, and Samuel. Sarah married Thomas Weeks, which is all that is known of her.

GEORGE, SON OF GEORGE 1ST,

Was born October 18, 1687, and was married, March 18, 1711, to Rosannah, daughter of Nathaniel Coles, Jr., and Rose, daughter of Mary Townsend and John Wright, who was born October 2, 1691. His marriage is almost the first mention of his name on the Records, but after that, for many years, he is very conspicuous. Soon after the death of Justice John Townsend, he was appointed Surveyor, with James, of Jericho, and filled that office many years, and was actively engaged in surveying during the whole of his long life. His compass, in perfect order, and his family Bible, containing many entries made by his hand, are in the possession of his great-great-

grandson (J. C. Townsend). He succeeded Thomas Townsend as Recorder. In 1712 it was resolved, at a Town meeting, "That, in consideration of several services done by George Townsend for the proprietors of the Old Purchase of Oyster Bay, the said proprietors, by a unanimous vote, granted unto the said George Townsend one whole Town right, equal with any one purchaser's right." He was then only twenty-five. He was appointed with James Townsend, of Jericho, to conduct the defence of the Town, in the suit brought by Nicholas Lang to recover a large part of the Old Purchase, under the title of William Leverich. He was not less active in his private business; the number of conveyances to and from him is surprising. His wife inherited a parcel of land at Duck Pond; he bought the rights of her two sisters, and parcels from other persons, thus beginning the formation of the Duck Pond Farm. In 1712 he bought a house in South street, south of the Summers house, where he lived nearly all the rest of his life. In 1754 he had removed to Duck Pond. He died May 11, 1762, and his wife, June 29, 1757. They were buried at B. T. Underhill's place, the homestead of her mother, where their massive brown headstones now stand.—Issue, Rosannah, William, George.

ROSANNAH was born March 14, 1712. She married Hezekiah Cock. Several of her children, if not all of them, were born at Oyster Bay. They afterwards lived at Matinecock, on the place now owned by her great-great-grandson, Townsend Cock.—Issue, Penn, John, Violetta, Dorothy, Sarah, and Gabriel. Violetta died unmarried.

Penn was born May 6, 1733, and was married, in 1772, to Elizabeth Weekes. He had two daughters, who died unmarried.

John was born November 10, 1735, and was married, in 1764, to Freelove Latting, who was descended by both father and mother from Henry Townsend 1st. He lived upon the homestead at Matinecock.—Issue, George, John, Daniel, Ambrose, Refine, Richard, Latting, Betty, Rosannah, Clarinda, Sarah, and Deborah. The last four died unmarried.

George married Freelove, daughter of Gideon Wright. —Issue, Anne, Gideon, Elijah, Hezekiah.

John married Charity Frost. Betty married Daniel Frost.

Richard married Rebecca Underhill.—Issue, William.

Daniel married Mary, daughter of Gideon Wright. —Issue, William, Alfred, Maria, and Mary. All these except Alfred died young, unmarried. Alfred married Phebe Ann, daughter of Jackson Townsend and Jemima, daughter of Hewlett Townsend 1st.—Issue, Townsend. This gentleman is most appropriately named, being descended in ten different ways from the three brothers Townsend. His mother is descended by both parents from Richard; his grandmother from John in two ways, from Richard in one, and from Henry in two; and his grandfather from John in one way, and Henry in two.

Dorothy was born the 5th of June, 1742, and married James Cock.—Issue, James, Hannah, Sally, Benjamin.

Benjamin married Ellanah Frost.

Sarah was born February 14, 1750, and married Stephen Frost.—Issue, Sarah, Rosannah, Letitia, Mary, Eliza, William, Charles, and Jacob.

Sarah married Charles Latting. *Rosannah* married Charles Cock. *Letitia* married John Redman. *Eliza* married Charles Latting.

Charles married Anne Frost.—Issue, Valentine, who married Caroline Covert. *Jacob* married, first, Mary Stoddard; second, Margaret Morton. *William* married Sarah, daughter of James Townsend, of Duck Pond.—Issue, Julianna, Freelove, William. William married Anna, daughter of Jacob Frost.—Issue, Louise, William, Julia, Charles, Anna, Sarah, Edward.

Gabriel was born Dec. 15, 1753, and was married to Phebe Birdsall, 1779.

WILLIAM, son of George 2d, of Oyster Bay, was born Feb. 13, 1715, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Cock, of Matinecock, and lived in Oyster Bay until after the birth of his children, and then removed to Duck Pond. He seems, from the number of estates to which he was appointed executor, to have been held in high esteem by his neighbors. The estate of Noah Townsend was in his hands twelve years, and descended to his son. He was an active man, and added materially to the Duck Pond property. In the Revolution he was a warm Whig, and, in consequence, had his house filled with troops and refugees, to his great loss as well as annoyance. He died of the small-pox, May 5, 1777. His wife died November 30, 1794. He was buried at Duck

Pond—the first person laid there.—Issue, James, Rosannah.

James was born at Oyster Bay, April 26, 1742, and married Freelove Wilmot, granddaughter of Jotham Townsend, Feb. 4, 1762. He was a man of excellent business talents, and, like his father, was intrusted with the settlement of several estates: that of Noah Townsend descended to him and remained in his hands thirteen years. Benjamin Wolsey's also was a very long trust. He added largely to the Duck Pond farm, buying, among other land, the homestead of Noah Townsend, when that estate was settled. As he agreed with his father in politics, he shared with him the resentment of the British and loyalists, and its consequent annoyances. For many years he suffered severely with the gout, and died of it, Sept. 12, 1798. His wife died July 21, 1809.—Issue, Walter W., John, Elizabeth, William, Rosannah, Sarah, and Esther.

Walter Wilmot was born Dec. 18, 1762. He engaged in business as a flour merchant in New York, and married Charlotte Coles, May 19, 1785. The few who remember, speak of him with the warmest praise. He died Dec. 7, 1793, and was buried at Duck Pond.—Issue, Charlotte, James, John, Walter.

Charlotte was born at Duck Pond, March 31, 1786, married Charles Higbee, and died June, 1851.—Issue, Joseph, Milnor, Charles, Elizabeth, Charlotte, James, Theodotia, Annie, Fanny, Walter, Lavinia, Mary, Caroline, Henry, George. Joseph Milnor married Angelina Lloyd. Charles married Caroline Howell.

Elizabeth married John Kilgour, and died April 6, 1863. Charlotte married E. S. Haines. Theodotia married Dr. Richard Eberle. Annie married Dr. Allen Goldsmith. Fanny married Mercer Beasely. Caroline married G. H. Coursen.

James was born at Duck Pond, Feb. 17, 1788, and died unmarried, 1816.

John was born at New York, Nov. 18, 1790. He settled in Mobile, where he married Maria J. Everett, in 1826.—Issue, Walter, Virginia, Amelia, Emma J. The first two died unmarried. Amelia married Rev. H. N. McTyiere. Emma married Penrose Vass.

Walter W. was born Jan. 29, 1794, married Anne Helme, July 24, 1817, and died April 2, 1860.—Issue, Benjamin, Wisner H., Charlotte, Joseph, Dwight, Charles, Maria, Annie, Walter W., Cornelia. Benjamin married S. Bell Dunderdale. Wisner H. married E. Hayward Kyle. Charlotte married Adolf Gosling, of Hanover. Joseph S. died Feb. 13, 1862. Dwight married Emily Hodges. Charles married Martha Louise Mitchell. Maria died July 24, 1832. Annie married Townsend Cox. Walter W. died March 16, 1840.

John was born March 17, 1765. He married Phebe, daughter of Dr. James Townsend, of Jericho, Jan. 25, 1789. She died without children, May 14, 1790. He married Rebecca Franklin, Jan 7, 1793. He was for many years a prominent merchant in New York, highly esteemed for ability and integrity. He died Sept. 18, 1824; his wife, May, 1822. They were buried in the

graveyard belonging to Friends' Meeting-House in New York.—Issue, Walter, Deborah, Julia, James W., Phebe, John, William, Charles, Louisa.

Walter married Mary Franklin. James W. married Margaret Townsend, daughter of William 2d, of Oyster Bay, and died February, 1861. Julia died unmarried, March 13, 1842. John married, first, Maria Maverick; second, Priscilla Whitney. William married Cornelia Maverick, and died August, 1847.—Issue, Manton, Thomas, William, Charles, Cornelia, Mary, Emily.

Louisa married Frank Smith.

Elizabeth was born May 5, 1767, and married Nathaniel Coles, of Dosoris.—Issue, Sarah, Phebe, Fanny, Eliza, Nathaniel, Butler, Lavinia, Hannah, Charlotte. Nathaniel died unmarried.

Sarah married, first, James Nelson; second, Stephen Kingsland.—Issue, William, Horatio, Sarah. William married Maria Kelsey.

Phebe married John N. Lloyd.—Issue, John, Angelina, Phebe, Henry. Angelina married J. M. Higbee. Phebe married Dr. Alexander Stevens. Henry married —— Brandegee.

Fanny married Kirkbride Milnor.—Issue, Sarah, J. Kirkbride, Coles, J. Higbee, George, Fanny, Charles H., J. N. Lloyd. Kirkbride married Elizabeth Ellis. J. N. Lloyd married —— Semmes.

Eliza married John B. Coles.—Issue, Frederick, Margaret, John, Frank. Frederick married, first, Jane Maria Coles; second, Mary Adams. John married Har-

riet Codman. Frank married Fanny Pearsall. Margaret married Dr. Arthur Tappan.

Butler married Julia Weeks.—Issue, Charles, Nathaniel, Edwin, Butler, Miriam. Charles married, first, Lucy Stone; second, Josephine Smith. Nathaniel married Maria Dickerson. Edwin married Sarah, daughter of Dr. Charles Townsend, of Albany. Butler married Mary, daughter of George Townsend, of Oyster Bay.

Lavinia married Thomas Pearsall.—Issue, Coles, Thomas, James, Fanny. James married Ella Frost. Fanny married Frank Coles.

Hannah married Daniel Cock.—Issue, Lavinia, Farley, Townsend. Farley married Maria McIntosh. Townsend married Annie, daughter of Walter W. Townsend.

Charlotte married George Kelsey.—Issue, Charlotte.

William was born Sept. 12, 1769, and married Margaret, daughter of Dr. James Townsend, of Jericho, Feb. 8, 1792, and settled at Oyster Bay. He was several times a member of the Legislature, and one of the principal movers in the establishment of the Academy at Oyster Bay. He held the office of trustee many years, and was very active in promoting the interests of the institution. He died Aug. 23, 1834; his wife, Oct. 11, 1818. They were buried at Duck Pond.—Issue, James, William, Mary, Phebe, Almy, James, George, Margaret, Frances, Samuel, Gertrude. The first and last died in infancy.

William married Fanny Seaman, Feb. 12, 1817. He

died Sept. 10, 1828; she, May 27, 1854.—Issue, Billopp, Margaret, William, Matilda, Henry. Margaret married James W. Townsend, who died Feb., 1861. William died unmarried. Matilda married George W. Cock.

Mary, by the death of her mother, was left, at the age of twenty, with the entire charge of a large family of children, a trust which she discharged with a degree of affection, prudence, and self-denial which only those intimately acquainted with the circumstances can appreciate. She remained with her brother James, after the death of their father, until the marriage of her sister Margaret, who then claimed the privilege of her society, and with whom she still resides.

Phebe married Captain B. V. Hoffman, U. S. N., Nov. 29, 1817. He died Dec. 10, 1834.—Issue, Margaret, Gertrude, Mary. The last died in infancy. Gertrude married William C. Uhlhorn, who died, 1863.

Almy married William Winder Polk, of Somerset County, Maryland, November 29, 1817. He died on the morning, she in the evening, of February 13, 1856, in Frederick City, Maryland, where they were buried.—Issue, Winder, Mary, Margaret, Frank, Gertrude, James, Louisa. Mary married Victor Monroe, of Kentucky, who died 1855. Frank and Gertrude died in infancy. James died 1851. Louisa married J. Bannister Hall, of Baltimore.

James C. married Charlotte Aurelia, daughter of General William H. Winder, of Baltimore, November 14, 1846.

George married Elizabeth Covert, January 10, 1832.

She died September 28, 1846.—Issue, Mary, George, Beekman. Mary married Butler Coles. George died unmarried, October 10, 1863.

Margaret married Dr. James C. Townsend, December 5, 1838.—Issue, Julia, James.

Frances married Jacob F. Covert, January 10, 1832. He died February 27, 1861.—Issue, Frances, William, Margaret, James, Aurelia. Frances and James died in infancy. William died April 29, 1853.

Samuel married Louisa Parish.—Issue, Fanny, William, Anna, Henrietta, Louisa, Samuel, Charlotte, Mabel. Charlotte died in infancy.

Rosannah was born April 1, 1775, and died unmarried, May 13, 1824.

Esther and *Sarah*, twins, were born November 12, 1778. Esther married Thomas Coles, and had one son, who died in infancy. She died April 2, 1854.

Sarah married William Frost, March, 1796, and died March, 1853. (See *William Frost, son of Sarah*, Chap. VII.)

Rosannah, daughter of William, of Duck Pond, was born in Oyster Bay, September 4, 1751, and married Daniel Cock, of Matinecock, December 20, 1768. They lived upon the homestead of his family at Matinecock, now owned by her grandson, William Cock. She died October, 1831.—Issue, Lizzie, James, Townsend, Deborah, William, Thomas, Phiany, Maria.

Lizzie was born December 7, 1769, and married Samuel Cock, of Buckram. She died April, 1859; he, August, 1855, aged ninety.—Issue, Loretta, Joshua, Clark, James, Deborah, Samuel, William, Rosannah, who died in infancy.

Loretta married Isaac Covert.—Issue, Jacob F. and Elizabeth. (See *George and Frances, of William Townsend, of Oyster Bay*, Chap. VII.)

Joshua married Susan Cock.

Clark married Catharine Feeks.—Issue, Mary E. (see *Isaac Townsend*, Chap. XVII.), George W. (see *Matilda, of William 2d*, Chap VII.)

James married Betsey Cock.—Issue, Anne, Susan, Sarah.

Deborah married Caleb Covert.—Issue, Caroline (see *Valentine Frost*, Chap. VII.), William.

Samuel married Fanny Cock.—Issue, Loretta, Benjamin, Augustus, Joshua.

William married Elizabeth Hicks.—Issue, Mary, Isaac. Mary died young, unmarried.

James was born January 12, 1772, and went into business in New York. He married Kate Akerly, and died of the yellow fever, 1794. His widow married the distinguished physician, Samuel Mitchell.

Townsend was born December 4, 1773, and married Margaret Farley, November 14, 1792. He is still living (March, 1864) at New Rochelle.—Issue, James, Daniel, Margaretta.

Daniel married Hannah, daughter of Elizabeth Townsend and Nathaniel Coles.—Issue, Lavinia, Farley, Townsend.

Margaretta died unmarried, November 28, 1860.

Deborah was born February 5, 1776, and married George, son of Prior Townsend.—Issue, James, George.

James married, first, Anne Valentine—Issue, Cornelia; second, Margaret Townsend—Issue, Julia, James.

George married Annie Frost, and died without children.

William was born August 22, 1780, and married Abigail Somerindyke. He died without children, June, 1858.

Thomas was born June 12, 1783. He studied medicine and settled in New York, where he enjoyed a large practice, until frequent and severe attacks of the gout obliged him to retire, a few years ago. He married, first, Elizabeth Ferris—Issue, Eliza, Ann Augusta, Emily, Thomas; second, Esther Seymour; and third, Margaretta Reilly—Issue, Elizabeth, William.

Eliza married James Parsons. Ann Augusta married Edward Willis. Emily married Richard Bowne. Thomas married Ann Augusta Wood.

Phiany was born April 23, 1785, and married Charles Thorne.—Issue, Anne, Mary, Lavinia, Margaret.

Annie married Armand Le Chaize. Mary died unmarried. Lavinia married Dr. Edgar Voorhees.

Maria married Dr. Joseph Hunt.—Issue, William, Benjamin, Maria.

GEORGE, SON OF GEORGE 2D, OF OYSTER BAY,

Was born November 13, 1720, and settled on the place now owned by his great-grandson, Dr. James C. Townsend. He married Mary Prior, and died January 20, 1761.—Issue, Prior, Hannah.

PRIOR was born on the 11th of December, 1749, and married Sarah Feeks. He was Judge of the County Court, and a warm Whig in the Revolution.—Issue, Jacob, Deborah, Hannah, George. The daughters died unmarried.

Jacob married Elizabeth, daughter of Hewlett Townsend 1st, and died without children.

George married Deborah, daughter of Rosannah Townsend and Daniel Cock. He was twice elected to the House of Representatives.—Issue, James, George.

James married, first, Anne Valentine—Issue, Cornelia, married to David Youngs; second, Margaret, daughter of William Townsend, of Oyster Bay—Issue, Julia, James.

George married Annie Frost, and died without children.

HANNAH was born May 21, 1755, and married David Valentine.—Issue, Susan, Sarah, George, Ellwood, Charles. The daughters died unmarried.

Ellwood married Mary Post.—Issue, Caroline, Emily, Susan.

Charles married —— Adee.—Issue, David.

RICHARD, SON OF GEORGE 1ST, OF OYSTER BAY,

Was born in 1690, married Susannah Weeks, and settled at Norwich, on the place now belonging to William Vernon. He died March 30th, 1750, and was buried on Fort Hill, where his tombstone now stands.—Issue, John, George. John married Elizabeth Seaman, and settled at Mamaroneck, where he died June 6th, 1771.

GEORGE was born November 12th, 1713, and was married November 18th, 1743, to Rosannah Youngs, who was born June 15th, 1725. There are a few still living who remember him, and they confirm the traditionary description of him as a tall, large man, of strong, original mind, and great energy. He was an active Whig in the Revolution. He is always distinguished as Squire George Townsend. We have seen a very interesting letter written by him in 1769 (now in the possession of his grandson, John Townsend, of Poughkeepsie), containing many items of family history, in which he took great interest. He died May 14th, 1802; his wife, December 12th, 1794.—Issue, Samuel, Temperance, Richard, Mary, John, George, Thomas, Phebe. Mary died unmarried, March 27th, 1804.

SAMUEL was born August 7th, 1744, and was married to Sarah Horton, September 10th, 1773. When the Revolution broke out he joined the American army,

and was taken prisoner and confined in the Provost, New York, from whence he addressed the following letter to his wife. The original is preserved at Washington's Head-quarters, Newburgh, which is now owned by Eli Hasbrouck, the nephew of his brother John's wife, and the grandson of Mercy Townsend, daughter of Samuel. (See *Samuel, of George* 1*st*, Chap. VII.)

"CATALOGUE 146.

"PROVOST, NEW YORK, *August 2d*, 1782.

"DEAR SARAH:—I have the satisfaction to inform you, by Colonel St. John, of Norwalk, who goes out to-morrow on parole, that I enjoy a good state of health, and am well supplied with the necessaries of life. Hope my friends in the country have not forgot me. I would not wish to entertain a thought but they will use their endeavors to procure my exchange, but must confess I am at a loss for the reason that that has not been done before this time. I have repeatedly been informed that there are a number of prisoners at West Point, Peekskill, and Poughkeepsie, for whom, possibly, I could have been exchanged before this time, if properly attended to. My best respects to all friends, Captain Sackett and Messrs. Fish and Sackett in particular, and beg that they would, without delay, apply in my behalf to their Excellencies General Washington and Governor Clinton, which I have no doubt will have the desired effect. However, as the fortune of war brought me here, I hope you will make yourself as easy as possible under present difficulties, as I am determined patiently

to wait the wished-for day when I may enjoy the happiness of being present with my family.

"Your most affectionate husband,

"SAMUEL TOWNSEND.

"To MRS. SARAH TOWNSEND, *Bedford*."

He died September 15th, 1792.—Issue, Sarah, George, Richard, William, James.

Sarah was born December 18th, 1779, and was married, June 16th, 1800, to Joseph Thorn, who was born June 3d, 1778. She died January 8th, 1827; her husband, December 22d, 1860.—Issue, Samuel T., Edgar, Sidmon, Mary A., Sarah H., Anne, Priscilla F. Samuel T. died in infancy. Edgar married, first, Jane Thurston, February 2d, 1825; and, secondly, Eliza Smith, November 18th, 1830. Sidmon married, first, Sarah E. Rowe; secondly, Mary A. Titus. Mary A. married Chauncey Knapp.

George was born January 9th, 1783, and died without children, April 8th, 1816.

Richard was born July 1st, 1785, and died February 20th, 1809, unmarried.

Samuel was born October 15th, 1787. He was called William until his father's death, when his name was changed to Samuel. He was married December 7th, 1809, to Phebe Adee, who was born April 3d, 1791. He died May 7th, 1826.—Issue, Sarah A., Edwin, Abigail, Richard H., Gilbert R., Samuel. Edwin married Mary A. Goss; Richard married Mary Anne Bowen; Samuel married Jane E. Drury.

James was born June 25th, 1791, and was married, April 4th, 1811, to Guilielma Adee, who was born April 12th, 1795.—Issue, Arthur H., William A. Arthur H. married Anne Loring, January 31st, 1831, and died December 22d, 1860. William A. married Catharine B. McCullough, July 31st, 1838.

Temperance was born September 12th, 1748, and married Elijah Cock, a merchant in New York. She died of the yellow fever, October 8th, 1794.—Issue, George, Sarah, John, Townsend. George and Sarah died young, unmarried. John was born June 30th, 1783, and died unmarried, 1863. Townsend was born December 13th, 1787, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac Cock.—Issue, Mary, Isaac, William.

Richard was born June 26th, 1751. He married Abigail, daughter of Mary Townsend and William Willis (see *Mary, of Ruemourn*, Chap. VI.), in 1775. He died December 23d, 1813.—Issue, Rosannah; born December 26th, 1777; died unmarried.

John was born September 8th, 1757, and was married, November 4th, 1779, to Sarah, daughter of Mercy Townsend and Daniel Birdsall (see *Mercy, of Samuel*, Chap. VII.), who was born November 20th, 1759. He was in New York, August, 1776, being nineteen years old, was called out on the approach of the enemy, and was in the battle of Flatbush. Upon the retreat of the Americans, those so called out were disbanded on the

heights, near what is now the corner of Grand street and East Broadway. He returned to Norwich, and built the house now owned by Jacob Hegerman, but soon moved to Patterson, Putnam County. At the time of his death he owned a farm near Poughkeepsie. He died August, 1847. His wife died about ten years before. They were buried in the graveyard belonging to Friends at Poughkeepsie.—Issue, Samuel, Daniel, John, Richard, Isaac, Susan. Richard and Isaac died unmarried.

Samuel was born September 18th, 1780, and was married, December 5th, 1805, to Betsey Irish. He is still living (1864) in Auburn.—Issue, William, John, Sarah, Eliza, Edward, Mary.

Daniel was born August 5th, 1784, and married Betsey Hornback. He died August 17th, 1825.—Issue, Hannah Maria, Henry, and Susan. The first two died unmarried. Susan married Hiram Fisher.

John was born December 25th, 1786, and was married, April 25th, 1815, to Maria, daughter of William Durell, a noted publisher in New York between 1800 and 1812.—Issue, Maria, Sarah, Eliza, Julia, Richard Henry Lee, Carnot, Alfred, and Walter. Maria married P. B. Connolly. Sarah married M. P. Dayton. Eliza married James M. Cromwell. Julia married James M. Valentine. Richard Henry Lee married Adeline Allen.

George was born June 28th, 1760, and was married, October 25th, 1798, to Phebe, daughter of Jacob Wil-

lets. He died November 10th, 1832.—Issue, Anne, Mary, and George.

Anne married Jesse Hendrickson. She died January 4th, 1860.—Issue, Daniel, Townsend, Mary, and Sarah. Sarah married John Vernon.

Mary married Obadiah Titus, of Duchess County.—Issue, Edward, Phebe, Emily, George, Kate, Harriet, Hannah, and Helen. Emily married William Ketchum. Phebe married James Underhill. Kate married Benjamin Broas. Harriet married Andrew Provost. George married Susan Green.

George married Sarah Tracy, March 26th, 1846. He died January 1st, 1864, in Illinois.—Issue, Sarah and George.

Thomas was born September 25th, 1763, and married Sarah Downing, September 20th, 1790. He died January 12th, 1839.—Issue, Mary, Temperance, Phebe, George, and John.

Mary was born October 29th, 1792, and married Griffin Green, September 23d, 1809. She died August 20th, 1852.—Issue, Sarah A., George T., Thomas T., John T., Temperance, Mary E., Caroline T., William, and Anna L. Sarah married Josiah F. Wetmore, and died February, 1863. James T. married Mary A. Kauffman. George married, first, Agnes Selcreg; and, second, Elizabeth Selcreg. Thomas T. married Catharine C. Graham. Temperance died young. Mary E. married Charles H. Lyman. William died young. Caroline married James Gaunt, who died March 9th, 1859. William died young.

Temperance was born February 14th, 1796, and died unmarried, July 18th, 1841.

Phebe was born November 13th, 1798, and married Samuel Green, January 14th, 1819.—Issue, John H., Benjamin M., and Samuel. John H. married Phebe A. Downing. Samuel married Phebe A. Downing, a cousin of his brother's wife.

George was born September 7th, 1800, and married Betsey, daughter of Walter Franklin, April 18th, 1832. (See *Letitia, of Gideon Wright*, Chap. V.)

John was born March 11th, 1802, and married Jemima Knapp, January 2d, 1834.—Issue, Mary K., Georgiana E., Sarah F., Josephine, and Anna M. Mary died young.

Phebe was born October 6th, 1769, and married Moses Downing.—Issue, Silas, Rosannah, James, Samuel, Henry, Mary A., Sally A., and Townsend. Silas married Mary Hyatt, March 22d, 1846.

Rosannah married Elijah Townsend (see *Elijah, of Elijah*, Chap. VI.). She died, 1862.

James married Maria Philips, October, 1827.—Issue, Phebe, Sarah, and Silas.

Townsend married Eliza Mitchell, September 5th, 1833.—Issue, Henry A., Phebe, Mitchell, and Mary.

SAMUEL, SON OF GEORGE 1ST,

Was born 1692. He married Sarah, daughter of Dr. Robert Cooper, son of Simon Cooper, "Chirurgeon," the first physician in Oyster Bay. In 1742 he sold the

homestead in South street, reserving the graveyard for the use of his family and relations forever. He then settled on the place now owned by the heirs of James Townsend (his great-grandson) at the steamboat dock. Dr. Cooper had lived on the south side of the street, and his widow left the place to her grandsons Samuel and Daniel, sons of Samuel Townsend. He owned a large tract at Yellow Coats, where his son Joseph settled. He died February 24th, 1747, and his wife, March 3d, 1751. They were buried on Fort Hill.—Issue, Samuel, Daniel, Phebe, Sarah, Mercy, and Joseph. Of Sarah we know nothing. Daniel was born May 12th, 1721; died unmarried, February 27th, 1751.

SAMUEL was born July 7th, 1717. His first wife was Elizabeth Colwell, who died January 31st, 1759. The second was Meribah Allen, who died November 7th, 1827, aged ninety-one years. He lived on the place at the steamboat wharf, but in the latter part of his life exchanged it with his nephew Joseph for the place at Yellow Coats, upon which his son Abraham now lives. He died June 22d, 1801.—Issue, Samuel, William, Elizabeth, George, Abraham, and Mary. Samuel, son of the first wife, died unmarried, October 8th, 1801.

William was born February 11th, 1763, and married Elizabeth Latting. He died February 13th, 1833.

Elizabeth was born November 17th, 1765, and died unmarried, 1820.

George was born December 12th, 1768, and died unmarried, November 24th, 1853.

Abraham was born April 16th, 1773. He married Sarah Sands, and is now (1864) an active man, in perfect possession of his mental faculties, and, except the partial loss of hearing, showing no signs of extreme age, and may be seen, even in very cold weather, actively employed in the open air.—Issue, Samuel, Mary, Elizabeth, Isaac, and Rebecca.

PHEBE married Job Weeks.—Issue, Rachel and Phebe.

Rachel married, first, Nicholas Wright; second, Albert Albertson.

Phebe married Israel Townsend. (See *Israel, of John*, Chap. XI.)

MERCY was born November 30th, 1730, and married Daniel Birdsall.—Issue, Samuel, Daniel, William, Sarah, Hannah, Mary, and Cynthia.

Sarah was born November 20th, 1759, and was married, 1779, to John Townsend. (See *John, of George of Norwich*, Chap. VII.)

Hannah was born June 22d, 1762, and married Isaac Hasbrouck, of Newburgh. Her son Eli now owns the house which was Washington's Head-quarters.

Mercy was born April 9th, 1769, and married Thomas Palmer.—Issue, Cynthia and Hannah.

Cynthia was born November 24th, 1771, and married John R. Philips, of Fishkill.

JOSEPH was born February 17th, 1728, and married, first, Hannah Youngs, who died in 1761; and secondly,

Margaret Weeks, in 1763. He lived at Yellow Coats, on the place now belonging to Whitehead Van Wyck. He died in 1812, and was buried on Fort Hill.—Issue, by the first wife, Daniel, Sarah, and Joseph.

Daniel married Sarah Latting.—Issue, Hannah, Anne, and Rebecca.

Sarah married William McCoun.—Issue, Hannah, Phebe, William T., Daniel, Sydney, and Margery.

Joseph married Hannah Youngs.—Issue, James, Judith, Daniel, and Mary A.

James married Margaret Underhill.—Issue, James E., Joseph, Daniel, Marianna, and Susan.

Judith married James Fleet.—Issue, John, Joseph, and Arnold. John married Mary Bates. Joseph married Susannah Underhill. Arnold married Maria Seaman.

Daniel married Sarah Titus.—Issue, John J., Edward, Hannah Marie. The last died young, unmarried. John J. married Catherine R. Bronson. Edward married Belinda Rockwell.

Mary A. married Daniel Underhill.—Issue, Susannah, Sarah, James, Judith, Joseph, Daniel, Mary, John, Albert, Hannah, Francis, and Abigail.

CHAPTER VIII.

DANIEL, SON OF JOHN 1ST,

Lived on the place which he inherited, south of the homestead, to which he added that of his brother James, the two making the place now belonging to the family of T. W. Burtis. He married Susannah, daughter of Samuel Furman, and died July 2d, 1702.—Issue, Robert and Daniel.

Of Daniel, the only mention we find is in a deed of gift, from Robert to him.

ROBERT married Judiah ——, and lived on the homestead until 1720, when he exchanged it with Caleb Coles for land at Duck Pond, where he went to live. His sons, Benjamin, Robert, and Daniel, all removed to the Oblong, Duchess County, where we lose sight of them. They sold the land at Duck Pond, given to them by their father, to Joshua Townsend, and it formed a part of the farm left by Noah to his son.

CHAPTER IX.

HENRY 1st

Must have settled in Oyster Bay before September 16th, 1661, as the Mill Grant bears that date, but he was not admitted as a townsman until the 4th of November.

Notwithstanding all he had suffered at Jamaica (then called Rusdorp), he seems to have entertained an affection for the place. In 1663, he gave a legacy, left by Richard Grassmore to his wife and children, to that Town, for the support of the poor, of which, Thompson says, that in his day the tax-payers were still enjoying the benefit. The following is a copy of this deed of gift:

"Rusdorp, the 25th day of third month, 1663, stylo novo. These presents declareth to all people and patrons whom it may concern, that I, Henry Townsend, of Oyster Bay, late of Rusdorp, in the province of New Netherlands, being approved of by the Court of Rusdorp, aforesaid, to be the lawful executor of Richard Grassmore, deceased, late inhabitant of the said Rusdorp; I say, approved of by the Court, being made by the last will and testament of the said Richard Grassmore, to be his lawful executor, as stated by the Court aforesaid, from the virtue, right, and power, I received

in and by the will of the deceased, Richard Grassmore, aforesaid:

"I do fully and freely, by these presents, give and bequeath all my right, of all the housing and lands of the said Richard Grassmore, that he had in the above-said Town, with the meadows and accommodations, with all privileges and appurtenances belonging thereunto, that was his, or did in any way belong to him, with all the debts that was due from any inhabitant, in the jurisdiction of the New Netherlands; and also what is due from Captain Thomas Millett, merchant, for the house, his son bought of the deceased, Richard Grassmore; and what is also due from John Barker, butcher or grazier, or any other, within the jurisdiction aforesaid. I say, I do give and bequeath, all my right, in money and lands, aforesaid, I say unto the poor, viz., poor widows and children, persons blind, or lame, or aged, that are unable to get their living, or any that shall suffer by fire, whose necessity shall call for relief, or any other of the like nature, within the said Town. And the Town, aforesaid, shall annually make choice of two men, which shall have the ordering and disposing of the said moneys, during their year, for the use aforesaid, and then to give an account to the Town, of their proceedings. Those two men, aforesaid, shall have liberty to make sale of the lot and accommodations, and also to collect the debts, and with the money, to buy mares or cows, which may be for a stock for the use of the poor, as aforesaid; and that these cattle or mares shall be put out, so that increase may arise, out of which, as afore-

said, the poor may be relieved; and the principal shall be reserved for a stock, for the use of the poor of the Town, aforesaid, forever. And whereas, the said Richard Grassmore did give the said land and moneys unto my wife and children, I do by these presents, to prevent the suffering wrong, give unto my wife and children, my house and orchard, with my house lot and half my accommodations, and half my meadow, in the Town of Rusdorp, and so by these presents, take off their rights, in the said lands and moneys. I say, I, the said Henry Townsend, do for myself, my heirs, executors, or assigns, fully and freely, make over, give, and bequeath, all my right, title, and interest in the said lands and moneys, unto the poor of the Town aforesaid, to enjoy and possess forever, as is before expressed. That this is my act and deed, I certify, by subscribing my hand, the day and date above written, namely the 25th of the third month, anno 1663, stylo novo. Henry Townsend."

Thompson says that, beside the real estate, this gift included £176 in money. When he settled in Oyster Bay, he bought or built a house on the Main street, one homestead being between that and Quogue Lane. He seems to have had occupation enough for two or three men. Beside the grist and saw mills he managed, he held the office of Town-Clerk, made many surveys, and was employed, with his nephew Thomas, in all public business, such as adjusting boundaries, procuring patents, and buying lands of the Indians. He assisted his sisters-in-law, the widows of John and Richard, in the

settlement of their husbands' estates, and was executor and overseer (as they called persons appointed to assist an executrix) to several wills, and was one of those appointed by Captain John Underhill, to see that his children were not wronged, in case his widow married again. While thus active for the benefit, public and private, of his neighbors, he was not negligent of his own affairs. The conveyances to and from him are innumerable. He was endeavoring to bring his property into a more compact form by sales and exchanges, and made, besides, gifts to all his children. In 1683, he had six acres laid out to him, on the hill, upon which he built, and gave his old homestead to Henry. In 1668, he gave the mill, or three-fourths of it, to his sons, Henry and John; the other quarter he gave to Rose, wife of Joseph Dickenson, who sold to her brothers, reserving one-fourth of the toll for himself and wife, during their lives. Henry sold his share to John. His son, Henry 3d, bought it again, but finally John's son, Jotham, bought it from Henry's sons, Henry and Absalom. Henry 1st gave land also to his three daughters. His was indeed a most active old age, and, it is pleasant to think, after all the storms and contentions of his youth, a peaceful one. He died between February 6th and March 30th, 1695, when he must have been a very old man. He was buried on Mill Hill, where a rough stone, marked H. T., shows his grave. His wife survived him. She was Anne, daughter of Robert Coles. Issue, Henry, John, Rose, Susannah, Mary, Elizabeth, Robert. Elizabeth died unmarried, September 13th,

1680. Susannah married Aaron Furman, Jr. She had two sons, Aaron and Jacob, who moved to New Jersey and Westchester, and nothing more is known of them.

CHAPTER X.

HENRY, SON OF HENRY 1st,

According to Thompson, married Deborah, daughter of Captain John Underhill. He does not appear on the Records, except in the transfer of property. Nor is it known when he died, but it must have been before 1703.—Issue, Henry, Robert, and a daughter, who was married (Dr. P. Townsend says) to one of the Ludlams, of Hog Island.

HENRY 3d married Eliphal, daughter of his aunt, Mary Townsend, and John Wright. At the death of his uncle, Mill John, he was elected Surveyor. He appears to have been a young man of promise, prominent for his years, judicious and prudent in the management of his own affairs. He bought again several pieces of valuable property sold by his father. Had his life been prolonged, he would probably have been among the most prosperous and influential of his family. Thompson says, he died in 1709.—Issue, Henry and Absalom.

HENRY 4th married Elizabeth Titus, a beautiful Quakeress. He removed to Chester, Orange County.—Issue, Henry, Nicholas, Peter, Phebe, Elizabeth, Martha, and Absalom.

Henry 5th was born in 1725, and married Anne Wright. He died March 28th, 1803. His wife died September 17th, 1825, aged 90 years.—Issue, Betsey, Henry, Zebulon, Noah, Phebe, and Charles.

Charles died unmarried, of yellow fever, on Staten Island, September 18th, 1799.

Betsey married first, Lewis Carpenter.—Issue, Townsend, Thomas, and Henry. Second, Robert Little.—Issue, Phebe, Elizabeth, and Martha. Phebe married —— Wright, and is one of the ladies to whom this Memorial is dedicated. Martha married Henry Titus.—Issue, two sons and one daughter, Elizabeth, who married Joshua T. Cromwell. *Her* daughter Sarah married Charles H. Townsend, and is the person from whom we obtained the genealogy of this branch of the family.

Henry 6th married Mary Bennet.—Issue, Isaiah, John, Mary A., Samuel, William, Peter A., Hannah, Charles, and Noah. Peter, Charles, and Noah, died unmarried.

Isaiah married Hannah, daughter of Solomon Townsend (see *Solomon, of Samuel*, Chap. III.). He and his brother John were for many years among the most prominent men in Albany, both as merchants and politicians.—Issue, Isaiah, Anna, Robert, Franklin, Howard, Frederick, and Mary. Isaiah married Harriet, daughter of his uncle Samuel Townsend. Anna married Henry H. Martin. Robert married Harriet Monroe. Franklin married Anna King. Howard married Justina Van Rensalear. Frederick married Sarah Rathbone. Mary married General William H. Walker.

John married Abby Spencer.—Issue, Theodore, John, Edward, Laura, Abby, Julia, and Mary A.

Samuel married Mary, daughter of William Townsend, of Cornwall. (See *William, of Thomas*, Chap. XVII.)

Mary married Andrew Cock.

Hannah married Dr. Elisha Hedges.

Zebulon, of Henry 5th, married Anna Cock. He died October 4th, 1836; his wife, March 3d, 1851, aged 88 years.—Issue, Elizabeth, Mary, Phebe, Charles, and Henry.

Elizabeth was born May 25th, 1794, and married Daniel Cromwell.—Issue, Charlotte, Elizabeth, Henry, and Edward. Elizabeth married —— Woodward. Henry married —— Bowne. Edward married —— Birdsall.

Mary was born June 7th, 1796, and married David Ford.—Issue, Elizabeth, Phebe, Margaret Harriet, Charles, John, Benjamin, William, Henry, David, and Townsend.

Phebe was born December 15th, 1797, and married Israel Green.—Issue, Anne, Charles, Townsend, William, Henry, Caroline, and Fanny. Townsend and Henry died unmarried.

Charles was born January 16th, 1800, and married Margaret Conklin. He died September 24th, 1839.—Issue, Sally A., Noah, William, and Harriet. All except Noah died young.

Henry was born May 9th, 1803, and married Harriet Conklin. He died September 29th, 1849.—Issue,

Charles Henry, Margaret, Mary, and Edward. All died young but Charles H., who married Sarah Cromwell.

Noah, of Henry 5th, married Letty Conklin. He left no children.

Phebe, of Henry 5th, married William Jackson, of Philadelphia.—Issue, William and Isaac. The last is professor in Union College, Schenectady.

Nicholas married Philadelphia Doughty.—Issue, Hannah, Elizabeth, and Mary.

Hannah married Jacob Cock.

Elizabeth married James Hallock.

Mary married —— Cock.

Peter married Hannah Hawxhurst. He was very successfully employed in the manufacture of iron, and made the chain that was stretched across the North River in the Revolution.—Issue, Anne, William, Peter, Isaac, and Sarah.

Anne married Solomon Townsend. (See *Solomon, of Samuel*, Chap. III.)

William married Elizabeth Franklin.

Isaac married Elizabeth Jackson.

Sarah married Dr. Anthony Davis.

Peter married Alice Cornell.—Issue, William H., Peter, Isaac, Robert C., Elizabeth A., and George C. William married Sarah A. Austin. Peter married Caroline Parish. Isaac married Mary Austin. Robert C. married Mary Whittemore. Elizabeth A. married John H. Austin.

Phebe married Joseph Lawrence, in 1764.—Issue, Elizabeth, Henry, Phebe, Richard, and Effingham.

Elizabeth married Silas Titus.

Henry married Harriet Van Wyck.

Phebe married Obadiah Townsend. (See *Obadiah, of Thomas*, Chap. XVII.)

Lydia married Anthony Franklin.

Richard married Betsey Franklin.

Effingham married Anne, daughter of Solomon Townsend (see *Solomon, of Samuel*, Chap. III.).—Issue, Townsend, Lydia, Henry, William, Effingham, Robert, Mary, Edward, Joseph, Cornelius, and Hannah. Townsend died unmarried. Lydia married, first, Edward N. Lawrence; second, Cornelius W. Lawrence. Henry married Fanny Brashiere. William married, first, Caroline Lawrence; second, Augusta Mickle. Effingham married Jane Osgood. Robert died unmarried. Mary married Andrew Mickle. Edward married Hannah Mickle.

Elizabeth married John McCoun. They removed to Troy, where their sons were merchants of high standing. —Issue, Townsend, John, Samuel, William, Richard, Hannah, and Sally.

Sally married Elisha Tibbits.

Martha married Daniel McCoun.—Issue, Annie, Elizabeth, Martha, Daniel, Peter, and Henry.

Elizabeth married Daniel Jackson.

Absalom married Helena De Kay.—Issue, Henry Robert, Charles, Solomon, Absalom, Fanny, Christina, Sarah, Helena, Hannah, and Martha.

Charles married Maria Fonda.—Issue, John F., Helena, Maria, and Sarah. John F. married Catharine Douw. Helena married Solomon Townsend. (See *Solomon, of Solomon*, Chap. III.) Maria married Maurice Viele. Sarah married Edwin Coles. (See *Edwin, of Butler*, Chap. VII.)

Solomon married —— Cannon.

Helen married Asa Gardiner.

Hannah married —— Noyes.

Martha married Isaac Fonda.

ABSALOM, SON OF HENRY 3d,

Married Deborah Weeks. He lived upon the place belonging to Mrs. De Kay. His wife died the 10th of October, 1739; he, February 2d, 1795.—Issue, Mary, Philena, Anne, and Deborah.

Mary was born June 10th, 1732, and married James Wooden, who was born May 17th, 1726. He died March 16th, 1805; she, November 27th, 1824.—Issue, Absalom, Isaac, Solomon, Judith, Elizabeth, James, and Townsend.

Absalom was born July 11th, 1753; died December 13th, 1841.

Isaac married Sarah Webb, and died December 3d, 1830.—Issue, Mary, who married Patrick Laurie.—Issue, Mary and William.

Solomon, born February 8th, 1760; died February 23d, 1842.

Judith, born March 12th, 1762, and married Arnold Fleet in 1780.—Issue, Daniel, James, and Deborah. Daniel married Rebecca Youngs. James married Judith Townsend. (See *Judith, of Joseph*, Chap. VII.) Deborah married John Wood.—Issue, William, Judith, John, Arnold, and James E.

Elizabeth, born June 12th, 1766; died September 20th, 1857.

James, born April 19th, 1770, and died October 28th, 1841.

Townsend, born October 12th, 1772, and died of the small-pox, February 15th, 1795.

Philena was born December 14th, 1734. She married, first, Richard Butler; and second, Thomas Alsop, in 1761.—Issue, by her first husband, John, William, and Deborah; by the second, Nannie and Richard. John and William died unmarried.

Debòrah married Thomas Smith, and lived at Cove Neck, where her sons now reside.

Nannie married Joseph White.

Richard married Judith Parish.—Issue, Nancy, who married Joseph Storrs.

Anne was born November 24th, 1736. She married Daniel Parish, and died without children, November 29th, 1783.

ROBERT, SON OF HENRY 2D,

Received from his father a part of the saw-mill at Mill Neck, and land near there, together with the house standing upon the bank east of the mill. He was a merchant, but not successful, and sold most, if not all, of his property there during his life. He was elected for many successive years to take charge of intestate estates. He had a son Henry, of whom we know only the name. Dr. P. Townsend says that about 1800 a descendant of his (he does not say in what generation), named Henry, kept a school in New York, whose son John was a midshipman, and died on the coast of Africa.

CHAPTER XI.

JOHN, SON OF HENRY 1ST.

It is not known who his first wife was, except that her name was Johannah. She died October 6th, 1680. His second wife was Esther Smith. He seems to have had much of the tact and talent of the family, in those days, for public affairs. He was one of the Town Surveyors from 1686 until his death, a period of nineteen years. At almost every Town Meeting, John Townsend at Mill is called on to perform some service for the public. He died May 9th, 1705. His widow lived until 1749 certainly, probably longer. According to the traditions preserved by Dr. P. Townsend, and corroborated by the Town Records, she must have been a woman of remarkable energy and business talent. Dr. Townsend says she fitted out a sloop for a trading voyage to Ocracoke Inlet, N. C., and started off with her son Micajah and her daughter Zeruiah. The cargo being principally cider, the sloop was nicknamed the Cider-Tub by the people of the village. The doctor does not tell us the result of the speculation, further than that Dr. Parish (who was, or had been, a surgeon in the Royal Navy) was of the party, and made himself so agreeable and useful that he captivated Zeruiah, who

married him. He tells us, however, that Esther was a short, stout woman. John at Mill had issue, by his first wife, Hannah; by the second, Hetty, Sarah, Zeruiah, Jotham, Micajah, Jonadab, and John. Of Sarah we only know that she married Edmond Wright, and her son, Dr. Thomas Wright, died in the Provost, New York, during the Revolution. Hetty married —— Harcourt, and is represented as a very pious woman. Of Jonadab we know nothing, except that he had a daughter Rachel, who married Solomon Wheeler.

HANNAH, DAUGHTER OF MILL JOHN,

Married Samson, son of Christopher Hawxhurst. Her father gave her a tract of land at Cedar Swamp, which he says in the deed he got from his father, who wished her to have it. This land her husband exchanged for a tract at Matinecock (now Buckram), where he probably had some before. He also bought mills at Glen Cove, and seems to have been a very active man, but probably not altogether prudent, as at his death some of his land had to be sold to pay his debts. Hannah survived him, but nothing more is known of her.—Issue, William, Joseph, Benjamin, Samson, and Daniel. We know of no descendants of Samson in the male line. Daniel moved away.

JOSEPH lived and died on a part of his father's place, which, with other large parts, belongs now to Samuel Cock. His son William lived in Mill River Hollow. Ephraim, son of William, lived at Westbury,

where he died not long ago, highly respected. Allen, son of William, lives at Oyster Bay. He was for many years a justice of the peace, an office which he filled with ability and integrity.

WILLIAM and BENJAMIN, sons of Samson, were very extensively engaged in business at Oyster Bay and Cold Spring. They probably extended their operations too much, for they failed and moved to New York. William married Anne Pratt. His daughter Hannah married Peter Townsend (see *Peter, of Henry 4th*, Chap. X.). Sarah and Amy both married William Denning, of New York. One of Benjamin's daughters married Timothy Matlack, and another married Willet Hicks.

ZERUIAH, DAUGHTER OF MILL JOHN,

Married Dr. Matthew Parish. They lived on the place now belonging to Mrs. Miner, which she inherited.—Issue, Esther, Elizabeth, Daniel, John, and Townsend.

ESTHER was born March 11th, 1719, and married Penn Townsend. (See *Penn Townsend*, Chapter VI.)

ELIZABETH married, first, Richard Latting; second, Augustine Weeks, in 1757.—Issue, by the first, Zeruiah, Sarah, Freelove, and Richard; by the second, Refine.

ZERUIAH married Captain James Farley, in 1770.—Issue, Elizabeth and Margaret.

Elizabeth was born July 26th, 1772, and married Zebulon Frost, November 14th, 1792.—Issue, Sarah,

Anne, and James. Sarah married Hallet Thorne. Anne married Charles Frost. (See *Charles, of Sarah*, Chap. VII.) James married Eliza Tower.

Margaret was born March 1st, 1775, and married Townsend Cock, November 14th, 1792. (See *Townsend, of Rosannah and Daniel*, Chap. VII.) She died March 8th, 1848.

Sarah married Latting Carpenter.

Freelove married John Cock. (See *John, of Rosannah and Hezekiah*, Chap. VII.)

DANIEL married Anne, daughter of Absalom Townsend, and died without children, at a very advanced age.

JOHN died unmarried, also at a great age.

TOWNSEND married Freelove Dodge.—Issue, Isaac, Ambrose, Judith, Mary, Penn, and Jacob.

Isaac married Annie Latting.—Issue, Townsend, Anne, Phebe, Sarah, and Richard.

Ambrose married Deborah Wheeler.—Issue, Stephen, Isaac, Daniel, Sarah, Mary A., William, Ambrose, Eliza, and Henry.

Judith married Richard Alsop.—Issue, Nancy.

Mary married Silas Latting.—Issue, Zachariah, Eliza, and Judith.

Penn married Elizabeth Mapes.—Issue, Mary.

Jacob married Freelove Powell.—Issue, Daniel, James, Henry, Thomas, Nancy, and Martha.

REFINE married —— Tobias.—Issue, Elizabeth, Sarah, Jacob, Ambrose, James, Ellwood, and Barclay.

JOTHAM, SON OF MILL JOHN,

Married, first, Martha, daughter of Rose Wright and Nathaniel Coles, Jr. She died very young, and he married Anne Kissam, who survived him many years. He bought from the heirs of the 3d Henry Townsend, the share of the mill which they owned, and got permission from the Town to close the road, which was farther north, and open one upon the dam. He died about 1752.—Issue, by the first wife, Freelove and John.

JOHN married Judith, daughter of Penn Townsend, in 1767. He died December 7th, 1785. (See *Judith, of Penn*, Chap. IV.)

FREELOVE married the Rev. Walter Wilmot, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Jamaica. He was born at Southampton, Suffolk County, in 1709, and graduated at Yale, 1735. She died at Jamaica, February 25th, 1744, and was buried on Mill Hill, where her tombstone bears the following inscription:

"Here lyes Mrs. Freelove Wilmot, Dec'd Feb. 25th, 1744, Aged 23 years.

"Behold my dearest part has left this world—
All nature into ruin shall be hurl'd;
Then will she rise, bright as ye morning star,
And gain the skies with joy beyond compare."

Mr. Wilmot died at Jamaica, and was buried in the graveyard belonging to his church. The following epitaph was copied from his headstone:

"Here lies the Rev. Walter Wilmot, died Aug. 6th, 1744, aged 35 years.

"No more from sacred desk I preach,
You'll hear my voice no more;
Yet from the dead my dust will teach,
The same I taught before.

"Be ready for this dark abode,
That when our bodies rise,
We'll meet with joy the Son of God,
Descending from the skies."

Thompson says he was a much-loved pastor.—Issue, Freelove, born February 25th, 1744; married James Townsend, of Duck Pond. (See *James, of William*, Chapter VII.) She died July 21st, 1809.

MICAJAH, SON OF MILL JOHN,

Was born 1699: he inherited the land at Cedar Swamp bought by Robert, son of Henry 1st, from the Indians, and settled upon it. April 23d, 1732, he married Elizabeth Platt, who died May 16th, 1759. December, 1760, he married Meribah, widow of Joshua Townsend, who died very soon after, and in December, 1763, he married Anne, widow of George Frost. He was a very decided Whig in the Revolution, as was his son Jotham. He died November 9th, 1781.—Issue, Platt, Epenetus, Jotham, and Micah.

PLATT was born 1733, and married, April 26th, 1760, to Elizabeth Hubbard, who was born in 1743. He was a prominent physician in the city of New York. His wife died October 2d, 1776, and he married Betty Dickinson, October 15th, 1777.—Issue, by the first wife, Elizabeth, William, Isaac, and Mary; by the second, Frances and Platt.

PLATT was drowned in 1805.

FRANCES married Lancaster Lupton, and was remarkable for her literary attainments, and not less so for her feminine accomplishments.

EPENETUS was born 1742, and married Lucy Beach, September 10th, 1769. He was an Episcopal clergyman. He with his whole family was lost, between New York and Nova Scotia, in 1779.

JOTHAM was born September 18th, 1746, and was married August 12th, 1775, to Deborah Kirk, who was born November 11th, 1745. He inherited the place at Cedar Swamp, where he died October 12th, 1815. His wife died February 27th, 1841.—Issue, John K., Micajah, and Epenetus.

JOHN K. was born September 28th, 1777, and died December 3d, 1861.—Issue, Charles Wright and Epenetus. Charles Wright married Anne Pierce, and died September 4th, 1861. Epenetus married Angelina Bell.

MICAJAH was born November 17th, 1782. He succeeded to the homestead and married Hannah Tredwell, January 15th, 1817. He died October 1st, 1861.—Issue,

Jotham (who died in infancy), Anne M., Mary T., Alexander, and John T. Anne M. married William Carpenter. Mary T. married Daniel U. Smith. John T. married Elizabeth Monfort.

These two sons of Micajah are the only descendants of Henry Townsend, in the male line, now upon the Island. To Mrs. Townsend, their mother, we are indebted for the genealogy of her husband's family.

MICAH was born May 13th, 1749, and was married August 13th, 1778, to Mary Wells, who was born April 25th, 1760. He removed to Canada, and died April 28th, 1832.—Issue, Harriet M., Samuel W., Epenetus, Rebecca, Mary, Micajah, Elizabeth, and Sarah.

Harriet M. was born August 7th, 1779, and died at Montreal, May 2d, 1848.

Samuel W. was born May 24th, 1780, and was married, March, 1802, to Pamela Lawrence, who was born May 17th, 1782.—Issue, Sophia A., died November, 1829; Erastus, died April, 1859; Mary A., Micajah, and Catharine L.

Epenetus was born January 24th, 1783, and married Polly Stoughton, who was born December 16th, 1785. He died at Cincinnati, January, 1839. His wife died at Putnam, Ohio, July 14th, 1819.—Issue, Harriet M., Mandanu, and Mary M.

Rebecca G. was born November 21st, 1784, and died at Philipsburg, Canada East, December 3d, 1853.

Mary (Mrs. Taylor) was born October 6th, 1786, and died September 27th, 1839.

Micajah was born January 22d, 1789, and was married, March 19th, 1823, to Elizabeth Davidson, who was born February 18th, 1806. She died at Clarenceville, Canada East, April, 1834, and he married Sarah Kellogg, July 6th, 1836.—Issue, by the first wife, Morris M., Frances L., and Micajah; by the second, Heber, Hobart, Anne E., Helen, Frances M., and Harriet. Frances L. and Micajah died in childhood.

Elizabeth (Mrs. Mills) was born February 26th, 1793, and died February 14th, 1841.

Sarah (Mrs. Hill) was born January 31st, 1800, and died November 25th, 1844.

JOHN, SON OF MILL JOHN,

War born 1703, and married Sarah, daughter of Edmund Wright, in 1738. At the death of his father-in-law he bought the homestead, now belonging to J. C. Townsend. Like the greater part of his family, he was a good Whig. He died December 22d, 1786, and his wife, April 22d, 1780. They were buried in the graveyard southeast of the Baptist church, their headstones having been brought from England by their son Ephraim.—Issue, Ethelinda, Mary, Ephraim, and Israel.

ETHELINDA married the Rev. Peter Underhill in 1760, and died April 18th, 1803, aged 62.

MARY married Jarvis Crooker.

EPHRAIM was a captain in the merchant service, of

high standing. He married Hannah Meade, in Connecticut, and settled on the homestead, where he built the house now standing thereon. He died February 13th, 1799, and was buried in the graveyard with his parents, where his daughter Sarah erected a stone to his memory.—Issue, Sarah, Deborah, John, Seth, and Ephraim.

Sarah lived many years with her friend and cousin, Mrs. John N. Lloyd, of Lloyd's Neck, where she died, and was interred in their vault.

Deborah married James Colwell, May 11th, 1807. Her husband was postmaster of the village of Oyster Bay more than fifty years.—Issue, Townsend, Sarah, William, and Deborah.

ISRAEL married Phebe, daughter of Phebe Townsend and Job Weeks (see *Phebe, of Samuel*, Chap. VII.), and removed to North Castle about 1775.—Issue, Walter, Susan, Jacob, Samuel, Isaiah, Dorinda, John, Israel, Phebe, and Job. Isaiah and Job died unmarried.

Walter married Jemima White. He was a distinguished classical scholar.—Issue, Juliana, Thyrza, and Euphrosyne.

Susan married Samuel Sands.—Issue, Hebe, Absalom, and Israel.

Jacob married, first, Susan Lounsbury—issue, Louisa; second, —— Berrian; third, Mary Woodworth—issue, Leander.

Samuel married Rebecca Purdy.—Issue, Isaiah, Caroline, and Maria.

Dorinda married Samuel T. Wright.—Issue, Samuel and Phebe.

John married Eliza P. Horton. He served in the War of 1812, and at the age of twenty-seven was appointed Judge of Westchester County, which office he held for eighteen years, when he removed to New York, where he was elected to the Legislature, and in 1846 to the State Senate. He died in 1863, aged 74.—Issue, Leander, Dorinda, Melissa, Caroline, John, and Josephine.

Israel married Phebe Sands.

CHAPTER XII.

MARY, DAUGHTER OF HENRY 1ST,

MARRIED John, son of Nicholas Wright, who lived on the place now owned by B. T. Underhill.—Issue, Rose, Eliphal, and Mary.

ROSE, as well as Eliphal, is said to have been a celebrated beauty. She married, first, Nathaniel Coles, Jr. He died September 8th, 1705, and she married Justice John Townsend. She became a widow again, in 1709. This time she remained unmarried several years, but in 1734 signs herself Rose Birdsall, after which nothing is known of her. She must have had what was then a handsome fortune from her father, which she was quite competent to manage. Her writing is remarkably easy and handsome.—Issue, by her first husband, Rosannah, Freelove, Martha, and Wright; by the second, Penn and Rose. (See *Justice John*, Chap. IV.)

ROSANNAH was born October 2d, 1691, and married George Townsend. She died June 29th, 1757. (See *George, son of George 1st*, Chap. VII.)

FREELOVE married John Dickinson, and died within the year.

MARTHA was born May, 1701, and married Jotham Townsend. (See *Jotham, of Mill John*, Chap. XI.) The following inscription was taken from her headstone on Mill Hill:

"Here lyes the body of Mrs. Martha Townsend, wife of Mr. Jotham Townsend, who died July 23d, 1723, aged 22 years, 2 months, and 11 days."

WRIGHT was born September 20th, 1704. He married Sarah Birdsall, and died February 23d, 1765, and is buried at B. T. Underhill's. His wife died May 18th, 1799.—Issue, Nathaniel, Rhoda, and Freelove.

NATHANIEL married Hannah, daughter of John Butler, from whom they inherited a large estate at Dosoris, where they settled. He died January 7th, 1814, and she, January 17th, 1838.—Issue, John B., Nathaniel, Wright, Oliver, Sarah, Elizabeth, Charlotte, Mary, and Freelove.

John B. married Elizabeth Underhill. (See *Elizabeth, of Letitia*, Chap. XVII.)—Issue, Eliza, Benjamin U., John B., William, Isaac, and Hannah.

Nathaniel married Elizabeth Townsend. (See *Elizabeth, of James*, Chap. VII.) He, in connection with John B., carried on the mills at Dosoris, and lived on the West Island.

Wright married Elizabeth Youngs.—Issue, Samuel, Elias, and Elizabeth.

Oliver married Margaret Underhill.—Issue, Oliver, Augustus, Edward, Alexander, Elizabeth, and Nathaniel.

Sarah married Robert Stoddard.—Issue, Mary, Hannah, Catharine, Martha, Betsey, and Sarah.

Elizabeth married Stephen Thorne.—Issue, Mary and Daniel.

Charlotte married Walter Townsend. (See *Walter, of James*, Chap. VII.)

Mary married Joshua Green.—Issue, Nathaniel and Rebecca.

Freelove married Jacob Latting.—Issue, Elizabeth and Augusta.

Rhoda married, first, Tunis Wortman; second, —— Smith. She died December 26th, 1800, aged sixty-one. She was buried at B. T. Underhill's.—Issue, by her first husband, Coles.

Coles married, first, Sally Van Wyck, and second, Elizabeth Latting.—Issue by the first wife, Sally, Horton, and Fanny; by the second, Coles and Rhoda. Coles died young. Sally married Maurice Suydam.—Issue, Joshua, Simonson, Fanny, and Anne. Horton married —— Latting. There are none of his descendants left here, and the name is extinct. Fanny married Daniel Smith, of Hog Island.—Issue, Jacob, Thomas U., Daniel U., and Sarah E. Rhoda married Alsop White.—Issue, Coles, Joseph, Jacob, Mary, and Rhoda.

Freelove was born November 5th, 1731, and married Nathan Horton. He died November 2d, 1793. She died without children, 1820.

ELIPHAL, daughter of Mary Townsend and John Wright, married, first, Henry Townsend 3d, by whom

she had two children, Henry and Absalom. Her husband died in 1709, and she married Daniel Wright, who only lived one year. Her third husband was John Morris, of New Jersey, by whom she had three children, Deborah, Justus, and John. Deborah married Johannus De Camp, near Morristown; and her daughter, name unknown, married a De Hart. Of Justus we know nothing. John settled in Maryland, and married Mary Rownds. He had three children, of whom only one (James) left a family. James married Leah, daughter of William Winder, of Somerset County, Md.—Issue, William Winder and John B. William W., lately deceased, was a physician in Dover, Delaware. John B. is still living in Baltimore.

MARY, daughter of Mary Townsend and John Wright, married Richard, son of Josias Latting, and was, through her son Josias, the ancestress of all the Lattings in the Town. Her second husband was Jacob Furman, probably the son of her aunt (Susannah Townsend) and Aaron Furman, Jr. By him she had a daughter, Susannah, who married Thomas Morgan, which is all that is known of her.

CHAPTER XIII.

ROSE, DAUGHTER OF HENRY 1ST,

Married Captain Joseph Dickenson. Dr. P. Townsend says that during one of her father's imprisonments she, then a child nine years old, fed him through the bars of the window. She had, we believe, a son named James, who married Sarah, daughter of Sarah Townsend and Abraham Underhill. (See *Sarah, of Thomas*, Chap. IV.) She certainly had a son, or grandson, Zebulon, who married Rose, daughter of Justice John Townsend. (See *Justice John*, Chap. IV.)—Issue, Townsend and Henry. Of Townsend we know nothing. Henry was born January 13th, 1735, and was married June 30th, 1752, to Ruth, daughter of Silvanus Townsend. (See *Silvanus, of Richard*, Chap. XVII.)—Issue, Mary and Silvanus.

Mary was born March 12th, 1754. Her name was Rose, but she preferred Mary, and so changed it. She married Gideon Wright, December 6th, 1772, and died May 6th, 1842. (See *Gideon Wright*, Chap. V.)

Silvanus was born November 19th, 1755; married Mary Miles.—Issue, Townsend, who married Rebecca Franklin, granddaughter of Gideon Wright, and died without children.

CHAPTER XIV.

ROBERT, SON OF HENRY 1ST,

Was born June 3d, 1667. He was one of those named in the New Purchase, and, besides, bought lands from the Indians on his own account. His will, dated 1687, which we copy below, shows that he was about to leave home. He must have died soon afterwards, as his head-stone on the Hill is dated 1687. The land at Cedar Swamp, bequeathed to his father by this will, is now owned by the heirs of the late Micajah Townsend, who are the great-great-great-grandchildren of Henry 1st. They have the Indian deed. The place has never been sold, except by the Indians, which can be said of very few places in the town.

"THE WILL OF ROBERT TOWNSEND.

"Know all men to whom these presents may come, or may any wise concern: know ye, that being upon a journey, not knowing how Providence may dispose of my , I being possessed of certain lands, by virtue of bills of sale made to me and assigned to me, do here by these presents, if it should so happen any otherwise than well in my return, that then my said land, with whatever I am possessed withal, shall return

into the actual possession of my father, Henry Townsend, Sen., for him to dispose of according to his will and pleasure, as witness my hand and seal, this third day of October, 1687.

"Robert Townsend.

"Sealed and delivered in presence of us,

"Henry Townsend, Jr.,

"John Dousbury,

"Job Wright."

CHAPTER XV.

RICHARD 1st.

Nothing is known of this youngest of the Townsend brothers until he appears at Jamaica, in 1656. The first time his name occurs on the Oyster Bay Records is in 1668, when he bought land at Lusum, of Robert Williams. It is only in connection with that, and other purchases and allotments, that he appears upon the Records. His first wife was a sister of Henry's wife, and a daughter of Robert Coles. The second was Elizabeth Wicks, or Weeks, of Warwick, R. I., whose brother John married Rose, daughter of John 1st. The date of his death is not known, but the settlement of his estate, which we copy below, is dated early in 1671, and as his son Richard was then but twelve weeks old, he could not have been dead a great while.

"These presents declareth unto all whom it may any wise concern, that I, Elizabeth Townsend, widow of the late deceased Richard Townsend, of Lusum, near Oyster Bay, in the North Riding, on Long Island, with the advice and consent of my husband's brother, Henry Townsend, and John Townsend his cousin, of the above said place, do consent and agree to divide and part my estate as followeth, being made executors by the Gover-

nor's order, because no will was made by my husband. Therefore, it is ordered and agreed that I am to have my house I now possess and house lot, with all the land I now possess belonging to it, fenced and broken up and improved, and so much more westward joining to the rear of it to the sum of fifteen acres, with meadow at south and Plains, during my life; but the rest of the woodland my husband bought of Robert Williams is to be my son John Townsend's, when he comes to age, except six acres I reserve for a daughter, if I see cause. But after my decease my son Richard Townsend, now twelve weeks old, is to have my house and house lot and one-half the house plot, with the orchard that now is, and so much land to the rear of it westward, to the sum of fifteen acres, being all of the first purchase of the land of Robert Williams; and at my decease, then my son John Townsend above said is to have all the lands remaining of the first and second purchases, except six acres I reserve for a daughter above said, and the other half of the house plot above excepted to build on, if he see cause; but it is to be understood that the said six acres is on the north side of the last purchase, and that all my husband's right of meadow and plains is to be divided between my sons John and Richard Townsend, for their own proper right and interest forever; but if either of them die under age, his living brother is to possess and enjoy the deceased's lands as his own proper right; but, if I see cause, ten acres of plains is to be my son John's, when he comes to age, to possess and enjoy as the other woodland above said. And to my above said

husband's two oldest daughters, Dinah and Leah, I do give, and by this deliver in present possession, for their part of their father's estate, two young horses, three years old, apiece, and two two-year-old heifers, two cushions, two feather pillows, two coverlets, a white wrought petticoat, and bedding blankets—all to be divided between them two; and the twenty acres of land the Town of Oyster Bay did give their father, I do also give and confirm unto the said Dinah and Leah, for their own proper right and interest; but if they sell it, I desire that for my son or my brother John Weeks, or one of the above-mentioned persons, may have knowledge and refusal of it, giving so much as another will for it. And to my three youngest daughters, Hannah, Deliverance, and Mary, I give in present possession one three-year-old bay mare, that is, in consideration of a colt their grandfather Weeks gave them. But all the rest of bedding, goods, and household stuff, with the rest of horses and cattle, are to remain in my hands for my use and comfort, toward the bringing up of my children; being but young and tender, do not know but it may be all spent in bringing them up, the estate being but small; therefore to engage to give portions to them —I mean to my own three youngest daughters, Hannah, Mary, and Deliverance—it is hard for me to promise and engage, least that I have may be spent in bringing them up. But I do by this promise and firmly agree, that if I marry, or go out of this jurisdiction in way of removal, to give an invoice of all movables, household stuff, goods, and chattels unto my husband's brother,

Henry Townsend, and his cousin, John Townsend, who are chosen by me, being related to the children, and my brother John Weeks, if he comes to dwell here in this jurisdiction, for overseers; but if he come not here, then the said Henry Townsend and John Townsend may act as overseers between the children and myself. But if one or both of them die, then all, or some of them (I mean of my children under age that then are), shall have liberty to choose one or more, as need shall require, provided they inhabit in this jurisdiction, for their overseers. That then the said overseers that are then extants are to take the invoice, if they like it, or take another themselves, if they please; that I may then have my thirds out of all the movable goods and chattels, and the other two-thirds is to be divided amongst my three daughters, Hannah, Mary, and Deliverance, or to them that are then alive; and the overseers shall by this have power to do it if I marry again, or remove out of this jurisdiction above said, or if I decease it shall be the same, only then my one-third shall be theirs to whom I shall give it; but if I remain here during this my widowhood, I have liberty to give to my own three daughters above said, on marriage or otherwise, for their portion as I shall see cause, according to my ability. And to every of the above-mentioned promises and engagements, I firmly engage to perform. As witness my hand and seal, this eighth day of the 2d month, 1671.

"Elizabeth Townsend.

"In presence of us,

"Joseph Nicholson, "Mary Willis,

"Henry Townsend, "John Townsend.

"And we, the above-mentioned Henry and John Townsend, do own and consent to the above said, and do stand as witnesses also."

The John Townsend here mentioned as the cousin of Richard was his nephew, John, Sen., of Lusum. There are many instances in which nephews are called cousins; indeed, we do not remember their being called any thing else by that generation. Of Richard's daughters we know nothing.

CHAPTER XVI.

JOHN, SON OF RICHARD,

Married, first, Phebe, daughter of Robert Williams; and, secondly, Mercy ——. He removed to Cape May County, N. J., about 1698. His will, dated 1715, mentions his son-in-law, John Willis, and his sons, Richard and Robert. In 1757, Richard and John Townsend, of Cape May, appoint an attorney in Oyster Bay. This is all we could find in the Records; but through Daniel W. Townsend we learned that there were still Townsends in Cape May County, and one of them, Reuben Townsend, has furnished us with the following particulars. John Townsend settled near Townsend's Inlet, which was called after him. His great-grandson, Joshua Townsend, lives within three hundred yards of the spot upon which he first settled. Except a very small part, his property still remains in the possession of his descendants. He died in 1721. Besides Richard and Robert, he had by the first wife two children, Sylvanus and Sarah, who both died in 1711. Sarah must have been the wife of John Willis, but we know nothing of her family. Robert settled in North Carolina.

RICHARD, SON OF JOHN,

Married Milicent Somers, of Somers Point, N. J., June 16th, 1704, and died May 30th, 1737.—Issue, Phebe,

John, Hannah, Richard, Sylvanus, Isaac, Milicent, Samuel, Robert, Daniel, and Jacob. Phebe, Milicent, Robert, and Jacob died young.

JOHN married, first, Sarah Brandreth; and, secondly, Tabitha Young, in 1740. He died in 1785.—Issue, by the first wife, Amy, Milicent, David, and Rachel; by the second, Henry Y., Tabitha, John, Sarah, Judith, Hannah, Rachel, and Joshua. Amy, Milicent, the two Rachels, and Joshua died unmarried.

DAVID married, first, Elizabeth Brandreth; second, Hannah Smith.—Issue by the last, David, who married Anne Swain.—Issue, Tabitha, who married Dr. John L. Smith.—Issue, David and John. The last married Caroline, daughter of Joshua Townsend.

HENRY Y. married, first, Priscilla Ludlam; second, Edith Stiles, then the widow of —— Swain.—Issue, by the first, Tabitha and Reuben; by the second, Joshua and Henry, and Priscilla.

Reuben married Elizabeth Holmes.—Issue, Richard, who married Elizabeth Hand.—Issue, Richard H.

Joshua (twin with Henry, born July, 1786; both living 1864) married Sarah Schellinger.—Issue, Aaron, Mary, Reuben, William, Elizabeth, Caroline, and Jane. Mary married Uriah Hewitt. Caroline married John Smith. Reuben married Julia Leaming.—Issue, Pennington S., Julia A., Florence L., and Lucien P. All died young but Florence.

Henry married Sarah Townsend.—Issue, Thomas, Robert T., Charles, David, and Lewis. Charles married Tobiah Corson.—Issue, Jonathan.

Priscilla married Rem Corson.—Issue, Baker, Uriah, Edith, and Henry.

Tabitha married Eli Townsend.—Issue, James, Hannah, Eli, Priscilla.

Priscilla married Joshua Swain.—Issue, Joshua and Henry.

John married Sarah ——.—Issue, Israel, Swain, Richard, Zebulon, and John.

Swain married Sarah Hand.

Richard married Hannah Welsey.—Issue, Charlotte, John, Sarah A., Lewis, Deborah, and Amos.

Zebulon married Antha Corson.

John married ——.—Issue, Smith and Israel.

Sarah married John Stiles.—Issue, John, who married Milicent Young.

Judith married Elijah Townsend.—Issue, Elijah, Judith, Enoch, Eli, and John.

Hannah married Jacocks Swain.—Issue, Joshua, who married Priscilla, daughter of Eli and Tabitha Townsend.

HANNAH, daughter of Richard, married Henry Stiles.—Issue, Edith, George, Roaner, Abigail, and Joshua.

Edith married, first, —— Swain; secondly, Henry Y. Townsend.

RICHARD, son of Richard, settled in Salem, N. J., and died in 1773.—Issue, Sarah, David, Catharine, Jacob, and Judith.

ISAAC, son of Richard, married Sarah Willets.—Issue, Mark and Isaac.

MARK married Elizabeth Clements.

ISAAC married Catina Albertson.—Issue, Samuel, Isaac, Jesse, Sarah, and Anna T.

CHAPTER XVII.

RICHARD, SON OF RICHARD.

After the settlement of his father's estate, we could find no mention of the twelve-weeks-old Richard, except that in 1691 he sold land in Rhode Island to Thomas Townsend, and we had despaired of tracing him, when Chancellor McCoun lent us some papers belonging to John D. Townsend, of Astoria, by which we found that in 1693 he was living in Hempstead, where he married the daughter of John Smith, whose wife was a daughter of Richard Gildersleeve, a magistrate and leading man in the early days of Hempstead. Among the papers is the following engagement with his father-in-law:

"This writing witnesseth, that I, Richard Townsend, of Hempstead, on Long Island, otherwise called the Island of Nassau, in Queen's County, in requital, or satisfaction, to my father-in-law, John Smith, for his kindness to me, both in land and meadow which he has been pleased to bestow on me, I do bind myself in the sum of forty pounds, current money of this province, to keep in his employ, and to carry on his business as heretofore I have done, as far as the Lord shall enable me; and if that hereafter I shall see cause to change my

condition, yet I do hereby own and engage myself to be an assistant and helpful to the carrying on and managing my father's business with my own, during his and my mother's life, so far as I am able to do. In confirmation hereof I have set my hand and seal, this 18th day of November, in the year 1693.

"RICHARD TOWNSEND."

He was married twice, but the name of his second wife is not known. In 1717 we find, by the Town Record, that he bought a farm at Cedar Swamp. He died about 1739. It is very pleasant, after having so long lost sight of the fatherless infant, to find him prosperous, as these papers prove him to have been.—Issue, by the first wife, Richard; by the second, Mary, John, Timothy, and Silvanus,

RICHARD lived with John at Westbury, and died unmarried, December 20th, 1795.

MARY married —— Jackson, and lived at Jerusalem. One of her sons was Obadiah.

JOHN, SON OF RICHARD 2D,

Was born in 1708. He married Phebe, daughter of Thomas Carman, and lived at Westbury. He died in 1797; his wife, November 12th, 1798.—Issue, Richard, Ruth, Thomas, Samuel, and Mary.

RICHARD was born August 14th, 1740. He married, first, Mary Titus, 1761; and second, Rosetta Sea-

man, 1770. He was a merchant at North Side.—Issue, by the first wife, Richard and Mary; by the second, Thomas S., John S., Jacob S., William S., and Jackson S.

Richard was born June 1st, 1762, and married —— Hewlett. He died October 13th, 1813.

Mary married Samuel, son of Ruth Townsend and Samuel Titus.

Thomas S. was born September 14th, 1771. He married Margaret Nostrand, of Jamaica, February 25th, 1797. He was a merchant in New York, and died there, January 11th, 1834.—Issue, John R. and Rosetta.

John R. was born June 22d, 1802; married Caroline, daughter of John Drake, of New York, November 12th, 1828. He was a lawyer of superior attainments and high standing, and president of the New York Life and Trust Company. He died February 13th, 1846.—Issue, Thomas S., Madeline, John D., Joseph L., and Margaret. Thomas S. married Sarah Schenck, of New York. Madeline married Henry Beekman, Jr., of New York. John D. married Eliza A. D. Swan, of Worcester, Mass., September 23d, 1854. Joseph L. married Emily H. Tailer, of New York. Margaret married James R. Plum, of Troy.

Rosetta was born October 3d, 1805, and married Joseph Lawrence, of Flushing, November 14th, 1823. They live in New York.

John S., son of Richard, was born April 3d, 1775, and died unmarried, January 26th, 1796.

Jacob S., son of Richard, was born June 26th, 1783. He married Mary Seaman, of Merrick, L. I.

William S., son of Richard, was born August 16th, 1788. He married Eliza Downing, of Westbury, and removed to Hillsboro, Illinois, where he died about 1854.

Jackson S. was born August 5th, 1790. He married Phebe and Jemima, daughters of Hewlett Townsend.—Issue, by the first wife, Timothy; by the second, John J. and Phebe A.

Timothy married Elizabeth Sexton.

Phebe A. married, first, Alfred Cock (see *Alfred, of Daniel*, Chap. VII.); second, Jacob Underhill.

RUTH married Samuel Titus.—Issue, Samuel and Stephen.

Samuel married, first, Mary, daughter of Richard Townsend (see *Richard, of John*, Chap. XVII.); and second, Mary, daughter of Samuel Townsend. (See *Samuel, of John*, Chap. XVII.)

Stephen married Betty Holmes.

THOMAS was born in 1732, and married Mary Loines, who was born February 21st, 1734.—Issue, William, Anne, Jervis, Pamela, John, Phebe, Obadiah, Sarah, and Mary.

William was born December 20th, 1756, and married Elizabeth Doughty. He removed to Cornwall.—Issue, Mary, Elizabeth, and Thomas. Mary married Samuel Townsend. (See *Samuel, son of Henry 6th*, Chap. X.)

Anne was born May 1st, 1759, and married Thomas Hanford, 1777. They removed to Nova Scotia.—Issue, Mary, Pamela, Anne, Rebecca, and Thomas.

Jervis was born August 15th, 1761. John was born August 13th, 1765. These two died unmarried.

Pamela was born June 28th, 1763, and married Richard Underhill.—Issue, William, Jacob, Adonijah, Mary, Thomas, Phebe, James, Samuel, Catharine, Sarah, Alfred, and Rebecca.

Phebe was born November 23d, 1767, and married Stephen Rushmore. This lady is one of the most remarkable persons whom we have ever known. She is now (March, 1864) in her ninety-seventh year, and sees and hears as well as most persons of seventy; employs herself in reading and sewing, making her own caps. It would be a great deal to say that she retains her mental powers perfectly, but that would convey a very inadequate idea of her without the addition of the fact that they were originally of a very superior order. We visited her to make inquiries about her family, and spent the day with her, and have rarely found so agreeable a companion. There is an archness, vivacity, and humor in her conversation perfectly charming. Her appearance does not in any way indicate her extreme age, her complexion being clear and fresh, and remarkably smooth. Extremely neat in her dress, she presents a most beautiful picture of old age. When she moves about, she takes the hand of some person to steady her. She is an Orthodox Friend, of deep piety, cheerfully waiting the coming of her Lord, and told us

that every night she thought whether that would not be the last. She was, we are informed, a very active member of the Meeting, as we had inferred from the energy, decision, and ability which she now evinces. She has one hundred and twelve children, grand-children, great-grand-children, and great-great-grand-children, and she can tell the names of every one. Her husband died eleven years ago. They had lived together sixty-six years. During his life they resided at Wheatley, on the beautiful place now occupied by her son Townsend Rushmore, who is almost as young for his years (seventy-one) as his mother. Since her husband's death she has lived with her daughter, the widow of Edmund Post, at Westbury, whose family united with the old lady to make our visit of inquiry a delightful recreation.—Issue, Isaac, Sarah, Townsend, Mary, Jane, Thomas, and Phebe.

Isaac married Lydia Post.—Issue, Stephen and Edmund.

Sarah married John Hicks.—Issue, Lydia, Isaac, Samuel, Stephen, Valentine, and John.

Townsend married Amy Willis.—Issue, Esther, Maria, Isaac, Phebe, Samuel, Mary, and William.

Mary married Edmund Post.—Issue, Henry, Robert, Lydia, Stephen, and Edmund.

Jane married Valentine Willis.—Issue, Letitia, Phebe, Mary, and Sarah.

Thomas married Jane Valentine.—Issue, Elizabeth and Stephen.

Phebe married Isaac Gifford.—Issue, William, Hannah, Robert, and Sarah.

Obadiah was born June 7th, 1770, and married Phebe, daughter of Phebe Townsend and Joseph Lawrence.—(See *Phebe, of Henry 4th*, Chap. X.)—Issue, Mary, Joseph, Sally, Thomas, Effingham, and Lydia.

Sally was born October 30th, 1772, and married William Burns.—Issue, Joseph.

Mary was born March 20th, 1776, and married Jacob Wood.

SAMUEL married Elizabeth Smith, 1770. His daughter Mary married Samuel, son of his sister Ruth, and Samuel Titus.

MARY married Richard Hewlett.—Issue, Thomas, Richard, Joseph, Oliver, Sarah, Jane, Hannah, Phebe, Ruth, Charlotte, and Mary. Thomas died unmarried.

Richard married Hannah Hewlett, 1778.

Oliver married —— Titus.

Sarah married —— Nostrand.

Jane married Samuel Cornell, 1777.

Hannah married, first, —— Watts; second, Peter Hendrickson.

Phebe married Jacob Hicks.

Ruth married Richard Townsend.

Charlotte married Thomas Leonard.

Mary married Stephen Hicks, 1777.

TIMOTHY, SON OF RICHARD 2D,

Was married to Sarah Hewlett, 1738.—Issue, Hewlett, Richard, Freelove, and Ruth. The daughters died unmarried.

HEWLETT married Annie Hewlett, of Merrick.—Issue, Timothy, Elizabeth, Hewlett, Ann, Richard, Mary, Sarah, Phebe, Jemima, Harriet, and George. The last died unmarried.

TIMOTHY married Abigail Mott.

ELIZABETH married Jacob Townsend. (See *Jacob, of or*, Chap. VII.)

HEWLETT married Ethelene Coles.—Issue, Sarah, Jane, Charlotte, Elizabeth, Freelove, Harriet, and Marie. Sarah married Daniel McCoun. Jane married John D. Hewlett. Charlotte married Philemon Frost. Elizabeth married John D. Hewlett. Freelove married Willet Weeks. Harriet married Thomas Albertson.

ANNE married Benjamin Coles.

RICHARD married Elizabeth Hewlett.—Issue, Stephen, who married Jane Garvie.

MARY married Robert Underhill.—Issue, Anne E., who married George Underhill.

SARAH married Rowland P. Allen.

PHEBE married Jackson S. Townsend.—(See *Jackson, of Richard*, Chap. XVI.)—Issue, Timothy, who married Elizabeth Saxton.

JEMIMA married Jackson S. Townsend.—Issue, John

I. and Phebe A., who married, first, Alfred Cock; second, Jacob Underhill.

Harriet married Paris Mason.

RICHARD married, first, —— Hewlett; second, —— Underhill.—Issue, by the first wife, Hewlett and Isaac; by the second, a daughter who married Israel Horsfield.

Isaac married Rebecca Schenck.

SILVANUS, SON OF RICHARD 2D,

Married Susannah Jackson and Letitia Hedges: it is not known which was the first wife. Letitia was probably the last, and the mother of his children.—Issue, Silvanus, Ruth, and Letitia.

SILVANUS married Theodosia Frost, December, 1764.—Issue, Benjamin, Melancthon, Jacob, Silvanus, and Letitia. The last two died unmarried.

Jacob removed to Port Jefferson, where his family now live.

Benjamin married Mary Hill.—Issue, James, William, Isaac, and Elizabeth. James married Priscilla Meade. William married Elizabeth McCoun. Isaac married Mary E. Cock. Elizabeth married Edw. Somerindyke.

RUTH married Henry Dickinson, June 30th, 1752. (See *Henry, of Zebulon*, Chap. XIII.)

LETITIA married Benjamin Underhill, in 1769.—Issue, Elizabeth and Townsend.

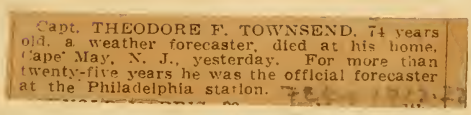
Elizabeth married John B. Coles. (See *John, of Nathaniel*, Chap. XII.)

Townsend married, first, Almy, daughter of Dr. James Townsend, of Jericho, who died May 12th, 1790; and second, Eliza Thompson. Issue, by the first wife, Benjamin T.; by the second, Letitia, Louisa, Edwin W.

Benjamin married Eliza Weeks, January 12th, 1814.—Issue, Almy, Maria, James, Miriam, Eliza, and Townsend. James married Margaret Varnum. Townsend married Mary Gage.

Letitia married Robert R. Hunter.

Louisa married Thomas Van Zandt.


Capt. THEODORE F. TOWNSEND, 74 years old, a weather forecaster, died at his home, Cape May, N. J., yesterday. For more than twenty-five years he was the official forecaster at the Philadelphia station.

NOTE.

The following copy from the original paper of Esquire George Townsend, of Norwich, now in the possession of his grandson, John Townsend, of Poughkeepsie, must have been written late in the summer, or early in the fall, of 1769:

TO CHRISTOPHER TOWNSEND.

"I make bold to write to you, and am but a stranger, although I am apt to believe that we both sprung from one family—no longer agone than our great-grandfathers. And if what I have heard—that you have had some desire to know the genealogy of our, or, I might have said, your family, which is what I have heard by Samuel Townsend, a kinsman of yours here, at Oyster Bay, which is what hath occasioned the boldness that I have taken, being myself desirous of a further knowledge in that than I have been able to learn as yet, there not having been many of our name hereabouts since my time, very inquisitive about the history of our ancestors. And as Justice Samuel Townsend was telling me, some time agone, that a relation of his, in Rhode Island, Christopher Townsend by name, an elderly man, was very desirous to know something more of the genealogy of the Townsends than he then did; and I now begin to be a man in years myself, and am willing to send this to Rhode Island, to Christopher Townsend, to get him to inform me more than I know already. I shall take it as a kindness of you, and shall be much obliged to you for it, after I have told you, by writing, what I have heard already from some of my old relations, by way of traditional account, and no other way. As early as the disturbance in England, in the time of King Charles the First, the first Townsend came into America, with a great number of others, on a religious account; and, as I have said before, those Townsends, our ancestors, came three brothers—John Townsend, Henry Townsend, and Richard Townsend. Henry Townsend, the youngest brother but one, came first, and being a handy craftsman, came to some parts of Long Island, as it was and is still sometimes called, being one of the first men in these parts that ever erected a grist-mill, and in the town of Oyster Bay in particular. And as he had been used to the seas, as I